

The Crusade Of The Americas

"Christ the Only Hope" will be the theme of 25,000,000 Baptists in North and South America as they seek during 1968 to cover both continents with a witness for Jesus Christ.

Mississippi Baptists will join other Southern Baptists in Crusades in the churches and other activities, according to Dr. L. Gordon Sansing, director of evangelism for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Churches in south Mississippi generally will hold their Crusades March 16-30 with those in north Mississippi to conduct their meetings April 6-20.

Most of the 1877 churches in the State Convention have set dates and made other plans for the Crusade, Dr. Sansing said, but he is taking this means of urging those that have not done so to take action now so Mississippi Baptists can have a one-hundred percent impact for Christ.

The Crusade of the Americas is a gigantic Baptist effort to reach for Christ the mushrooming population of the entire Western Hemisphere, 292 million people in North America and 165 million in South America.

Even though 38 different Baptist bodies will be participating simultaneously in this campaign, each group will conduct its Crusade separately and in its own way.

The objectives of the Crusade, as set by the first meeting of the Crusade Central Coordinating Committee at Cali, Colombia, are:

- (1) A deepening of the spiritual life within the churches, homes, and individual Christians.
- (2) The evangelizing of the American continents.
- (3) The establishment of true moral and spiritual bases for the betterment of mankind's economic, social and physical welfare.
- (4) The Crusade grew out of a two-year evangelism campaign of Brazilian Baptists which concluded in 1965 with over 100,000 professions of faith.
- (5) The Crusade is a coordinated effort with a major thrust in personal witnessing and mass evangelism climaxing in 1968. The stages are: a year of preparation (1967), a year of work and witness (1968), a year of proclamation (1969), a year of follow-through (1970).

With the Watch Night Service just concluded on Tuesday of this week the

next project will be January Bible Study next week, January 6-10.

Dr. Sansing called special attention to the next event on the Crusade Calendar, "Soul-Winning Commitment Day and Hemispheric Day of Prayer for the Crusade, set for January 12.

Continuing, he declared: "Effective planning for and purposeful presentation of commitment and prayer on this date, or any more convenient date, can be a telling difference in the impact of the Crusade."

"It can spell the difference between

hell and heaven for many. It could change many from nominal Christian to enthusiastic witnesses."

For the first time in the history of Southern Baptists a series of three nation-wide evangelistic color telecasts will be presented early in March on behalf of the Crusade.

The exact dates will be released just as soon as the schedule is completed.

Radio Newsman Paul Harvey will narrate the programs with Evangelist Billy Graham serving as speaker and giving an invitation.

The Singing Churchmen of Oklahoma and a dynamic youth group will provide the musical background.

Each telecast will be built around a basic theme. The first will focus on youth, the second on the family and the third on the nation with special emphasis on the responsibility of the individual.

SEEN IN 39 CITIES.

These telecasts are being sponsored by the Home Mission Board with the cooperation of the Radio and Television Commission.

(Continued on page 2)

The Baptist Record

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Religion In Review Sees '68 As Hope And Anti-Hope

By Norman B. Rohrer, Director
EP News Service

Not even God can change the past, so the record of 1968 will stand forever as men lived it in noble or ignoble pursuits.

Every day an average of 324,000 human babies entered the world and 10,000 persons starved to death or died of malnutrition. In addition, 123,000 persons died for other reasons, leaving a net gain of about 190,000 per day.

In their agony over Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae* banning birth control (rated by the secular press as the top religious story of the year), some Roman Catholics were asking if the Pontiff should retire.

The dominant mood of most ghetto youth was tragic apathy, while anger

and violence prevailed among the more privileged in colleges and universities.

The cost of living rose steadily in 1968 but Americans were voluntarily contributing more than ever to charitable enterprises. Citizens of the U.S. spent \$130 million for missionary work but \$30 billion on gambling, \$20 billion on crime, \$9 billion on liquor, \$5 billion on tobacco, \$3 billion on house pets and \$175 million on dog food. The \$100 million spent on comic books was four times the annual budget of all public libraries in the U.S.

The cry of "collective guilt" followed the crack of the assassin's rifle that killed Martin Luther King Jr. Three months later a fresh grave enclosed the body of U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy while a shocked nation mourned further violence and a swarthy, ex-Sunday school Jordanian pupil was brought to trial for the shooting.

Communities of Amish left for Paraguay, objecting to the nation's student anti-religious sentiment, its waging of a "morally indefensible war in Vietnam" and the popularizing of respect for secular freedom as a fundamental civil liberty.

Pollsters discovered that 97 percent of the American people attested to a belief in God, but Maryland's 245-year-old law against blasphemy was challenged in court. TV fare was dominated by ugliness, noise and violence. Rampant gonorrhea raced "out of control" and wife-swapping became a national scandal.

But men of good will were busy too, settling 189,381 Cuban refugees, struggling with the moral questions

of transplanting human organs, gathering 1,200 strong to pray with President Johnson, and breaking into TV with warnings about health hazards in cigarette smoking. The nation elected a Quaker President and an Episcopalian Vice President.

Churches merged, marched and mingled in ecumenical accord in 1968 and a "theology of hope" was seen to be winning over the "God is dead" (Continued on page 2)

SBC 1968 Membership Reaches 11.3 Million

NASHVILLE (BP) — Statistical projections based on an early profile analysis indicate that 1968 Southern Baptist Convention church membership will be 11.3 million, Southern Baptist leaders were told here.

The statistical projection, was based on the first 25,368 church letters received and processed by the research and statistics department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board here.

If the unofficial projections are correct, church membership would have increased about 180,000 over the 1967 total church membership.

Possible decreases were projected, however, in Sunday School, Training Union, Brotherhood, and Women's Missionary Union enrollments, and also in the number of baptisms compared to 1967. An increase was projected in music ministry enrollments.

"The churches involved in this estimate are not completely representative of all Southern Baptist churches — some church size categories and state conventions are over represented due in part to the sequence of associational meetings," said Martin Bradley, secretary of the research and statistics department.

"However," Bradley said, "in arriving at the projections, statistical adjustments were made to effect proportionate representation of churches according to size and location."

"For instance, most meetings in Colorado, Kansas, Illinois, Kentucky and Missouri are held in August or September. In a number of other states, meetings are held during the middle and latter part of October. Re-

(Continued on page 3)

Racial Crisis Voted Top '68 Baptist Story

NASHVILLE (BP) — The racial crisis in the nation and Southern Baptist response to it was voted the top news story of the year by the editors of 30 Baptist state papers throughout the nation.

The ten most significant stories of the year concerning Southern Baptists were selected by the Baptist editors in balloting conducted by the Baptist Press, news service of the Southern Baptist Convention with offices here.

Adoption of the "Statement Concerning the Crisis in Our Nation" by the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston and implementation of the statement by Baptist agencies, plus Baptist reaction to rioting and the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., all were ingredients of the top Southern Baptist story of the year.

Other top Baptist news developments of 1968, as selected by the editors, were:

2. A debate within the Southern Baptist Convention over the relation between evangelism and social action;
3. The historic actions of the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston, not only on the Crisis in the Nation, but on other matters.
4. The perplexing question of federal aid to Baptist higher education, and actions by several Baptist schools and state conventions to accept or reject federal aid.
5. Actions by several conventions to release Baptist schools to become private institutions, and other related developments.
6. The Crusade of the Americas, an evangelistic campaign involving Baptists in North, Central and South America, and related developments during 1968.

7. A controversy over alien immigration and/or open communion involving Baptists in several states and associations.

8. A financial crisis that faced Baptist loan organizations in Kansas and Texas;

9. Continued Baptist concern with the ecumenical movement;

10. An emphasis on ministry to the inner city and urban areas by the SBC Home Mission Board, and other SBC agencies.

The editors picked the ten top stories from a field of 23-items listed on a ballot prepared by the Baptist Press

(Continued on page 3)

State History Made In 1968

By R. A. McLemore
Executive Secretary
Historical Commission

1968 was an eventful year in the history of Mississippi Baptists. The developments which appeared to a contemporary observer to be important are frequently found to be of little consequence in the long view of history. It does seem, however, that the following events had the greatest impact on Mississippi Baptist life in the year now ending.

Mississippi Baptists began 1968 with statistical evidence that they had reached the highest point in their history. There were 515,270 Baptists in 1900 churches. In 1967 there had been 16,359 baptisms; the gifts to the cooperative program were \$3,372,853 and the total receipts for all causes were \$31,978,079. This represented a gift per capita of \$62.06.

The value of church property reached \$152,522,276. In all of these categories Mississippi Baptists had made substantial advances in 1967. With the new strength and assurance which the achievements gave it was widely anticipated that 1968 would be an even more fruitful year in the work for the Lord.

The overriding missionary spirit of Mississippi Baptists was manifest in the interest given the Crusade of

the Americas which was entering its second year. 1967 was a year of preparation, but 1968 was designated as a year of work and witness.

Throughout the twelve months the Crusade of the Americas was kept before the Baptists of Mississippi in a dynamic way. The pulpit, the teaching ministry and the Baptist Record combined to mobilize the Baptists for the greatest missionary effort that had ever been undertaken by the Baptist churches.

In addition to the Crusade of the Americas, Baptists participated in the Montana Crusade, the Ohio Crusade, and the Alaska Crusade. These

efforts were directed toward strengthening the existing churches and especially toward the establishment of new mission points and churches.

The Baptist Record presented to its readers a series of articles on great issues facing Mississippi Baptists. These issues included such problems as 1. social action; 2. the ecumenical movement; 3. Christian education; 4. growth of the Southern Baptists; and 5. doctrinal emphasis. In all of these issues the columns of the Record were open to individuals who had contributions to make. The articles that were published stimulated wide

(Continued on page 2)

MAKE YOUR WILL MONTH

These Three Made Their Witness Live

By Merrill D. Moore
Director

SBC Stewardship Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

This is the story of three people. It is also the story of three churches.

Mr. A., we shall call him, thought of the Scripture passage which says: "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteous-

ness, as the stars for ever and ever" (Daniel 12:3).

He thought of how the Lord had blessed him as a layman in his own Christian witness and had given him the opportunity to "win many to righteousness." He thought how his offering each Sunday through his church and through the Cooperative Program extended his arm throughout the state and even "unto all the

world" in helping to bring others to know Christ.

Then he thought: "When I am gone, what...?"

Extensive and fertile fields held in his name had been very profitable and very valuable. Other investments had been remarkably successful.

"When I am gone, what...?" His pastor's words on a recent Sun-

(Continued on page 2)

1100 Expected For Evangelism Conference Feb. 3-5 At Gulfshore Assembly

Eleven hundred Mississippi Baptist pastors and other church and associational leaders are expected to attend the annual Mississippi Baptist Evangelism Conference to be held

at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly February 3-5.

Dr. L. Gordon Sansing, director of evangelism for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, said that

"Christ — the Only Hope" would be the theme of the conference.

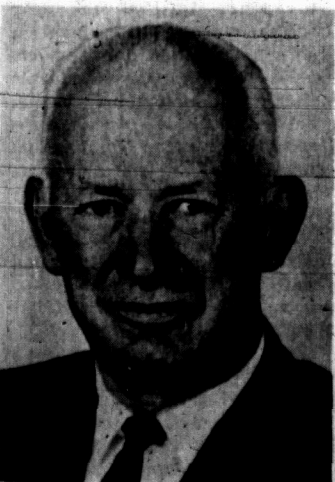
This is the same theme as that of the Crusade of the Americas, which will be emphasized at the conference.

Dr. Sansing added.

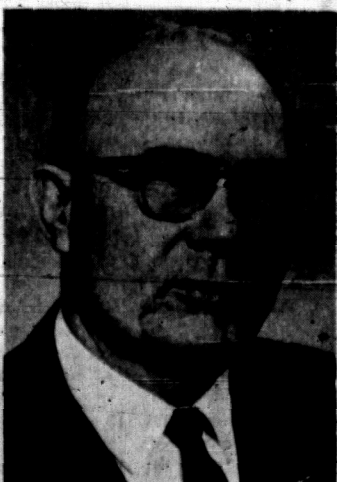
Speakers will be Dr. H. Franklin Paschall, pastor First Baptist Church Nashville, Tennessee; Dr. C. E. Autrey, director of the Division of

Evangelism of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.; Rev. Henry Earl Peacock, Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil and general coordinator of the Crusade; Rev.

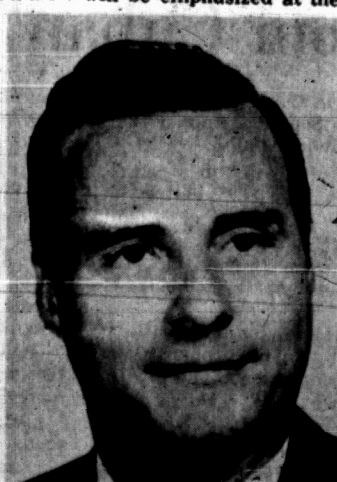
Leroy Smith, superintendent of missions for the Montana Baptist Fellowship; Rev. Lucius B. Marion, pastor of Clarksdale Baptist Church and Dr. (Continued on page 2)



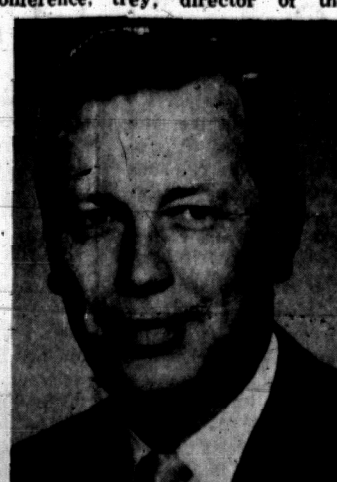
Dr. Paul A. Meigs



Dr. C. E. Autrey



Rev. Henry Earl Peacock



Dr. H. Franklin Paschall



Convention Hall where Evangelism Conference will meet.

History Made--

(Continued from page 1)

spread discussion and awakened Baptists to a realization of the major problems confronting the church today.

Long Range Conference Held
A long range planning conference was convened in Jackson, June 24-27. This was the first conference of the kind to be held in Mississippi. Its purpose was to give leaders of the church an in-depth study of the concept of planning, the principals of planning and a thorough working knowledge of the church.

The registration of the conference was limited to thirty churches with a total of 80 delegates. It was anticipated that this movement might eventually involve all of the churches in a program that would assure a maximum utilization of the resources available.

The woman's Missionary Union adopted a revised organization plan that became effective in October. The plan was described as the largest single overhaul in Women's Missionary Union history. It was expected a simple and flexible organization would direct more energy into support of the Southern Baptist missionary efforts. The new organization anticipated that members of the society would form groups according to their interest rather than being assigned to circles.

A baccalaureate nursing program was announced by the Baptist Hospital and Mississippi College to become effective in September of 1969. This marked a major advance in educational activities by the Mississippi Baptist Convention. It will be the first baccalaureate program for the training of nurses in a private college in the State of Mississippi.

The Baptist Building was opened in 1968. The move into the new offices started on March 11. There was a formal opening on July 2, and the dedication was held on Wednesday, November 13 with Dr. W. A. Criswell, President of the Southern Baptist Convention, as the principal speaker.

The building, located at the corner of Mississippi and President streets, directly across from the capitol is a four story building housing the offices of the various departments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Its facilities are available to churches, associations, and other church related groups, for their use in advancing the work and programs of the Convention. The building represents a climactic milestone of progress in the 132 year history of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. It is a building of imposing beauty and utility.

Dr. Quarles Passed Away
The death of Dr. Chester L. Quarles on July 6, 1968, at Cuzco, Peru, was a great blow to Mississippi Baptists and a great loss to Christian leadership. Dr. Quarles had served as Executive Secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for 18 years. Under his leadership the Baptists had made significant progress.

His membership had grown by more than 30% and the number of churches by 25%. The value of church property had increased seven fold during the period. Dr. Quarles was a vital part in the achievement of these significant developments.

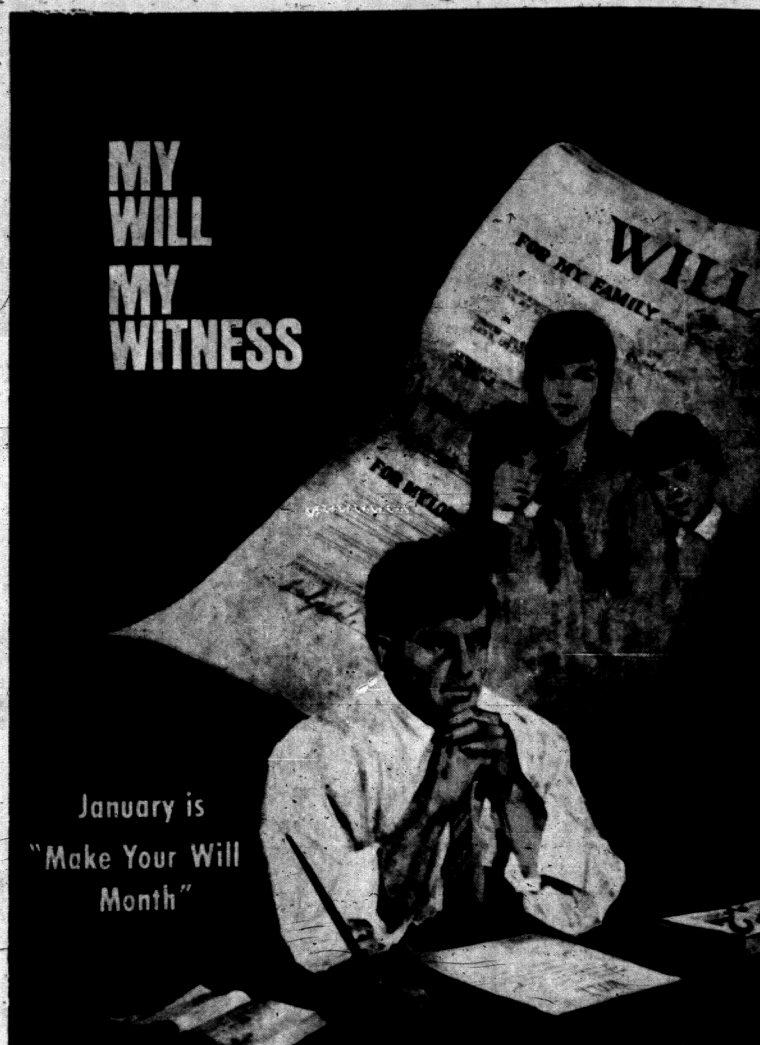
In the funeral oration for Dr. Quarles, his pastor, Dr. W. D. Hudgins, said: "Yes, literally, our friend climbed the heights, or started to, in a far away land. But he climbed the heights to be found at rest in peace."

"Victory after victory, mountain after mountain, conquest after conquest, triumph after triumph has God given Chester Quarles. And how wonderful to be taken home from the peak of his highest achievement! What would he say in this moment? He would say: 'Rejoice, evermore rejoice!' He would say with the Psalmist, 'Sing unto the Lord a new song; declare His glory among the heathen. His wonders among all the people. For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised. He is to be feared above all gods. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving and make a joyful noise unto Him. For the Lord is a great God and a King above all gods.'"

New Building Dedicated
The 133rd Session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention was highlighted by the dedication of the new Baptist Building; the adoption of a record high mission budget and the election of a new President. It was generally conceded that it was not a history making Convention, but it was one of the most harmonious that has been held in recent years.

It was evident that the spirit of the late executive secretary prevailed the gathering. It was also evident that a spirit of harmony and unity dominated the membership of the Convention. A complete report of the achievements of Baptists during 1968 will be available in January. The first published figures indicate that cooperative program receipts total \$3,670,400.00. This was an increase of 8.06% over 1967.

This is probably a good indication that the total achievements of Baptists during 1968 surpassed those of any previous year. It is another strong indication that in spite of all the 140,000,000 over the failure of the church to meet its responsibilities



MY WILL
MY WITNESS

January is
"Make Your Will
Month"

These Three Made Witness Live

(Continued from page 1)

day had helped frame an answer in his mind. A piece of literature spoke to his heart. The encouraging word of another businessman in the church stimulated him to take prompt action. He talked with his attorney. He talked with a representative of the Baptist Foundation in his state.

Now his will assures the continuity of his liberal gifts to beloved mission causes, for generations to come.

Now, also, one of those tracts of land, the value of which is conservatively estimated at more than a million dollars, is in a living trust with the Baptist Foundation. Today, with lessened managerial burden for him, he and his wife are receiving the income from that property. At their deaths it will become a permanent trust. It will then in perpetuity provide liberal support for those mission causes which are now extending the reach of his arm to bless so many people.

Has Small Estate

Mr. B. has a small estate, "not enough to worry about when I am gone," he says. But he, too, wants all that he has to do the will of God. He realizes that for a steward, the important thing is not how much he has, but how faithful he is in its use. And he has come to realize that his family needs the protection of a well-planned will.

He, with the help of his attorney and a representative from the Baptist Foundation, has prepared a will which

will continue to honor God and bless the world, long after he is gone.

Mrs. C. has given much thought to the stewardship of the estate which she and her late husband built with such diligent labor. She has cause for gratitude that her husband was wise enough to prepare a will for her protection, and to make significant contribution to the Lord's work in funds which are now administered by the Baptist Foundation.

Somehow she had failed to be as wise in making provision for the handling of the estate after her death.

She talked with her attorney and with a representative of the Baptist Foundation.

Now that is taken care of, to her satisfaction and joy.

What do Mr. A., Mr. B., and Mrs. C. have in common?

A sense of responsibility.

A sense of stewardship.

A love for the Lord.

A concern for the work of his Kingdom.

Wisdom in making decisions about important matters.

In each of these cases, according to their testimonies, an observance of Make Your Will Month in the churches of which they are members helped them to see more clearly some very important things.

They were helped to see that one's will is a part of his Christian witness.

They were encouraged to take important actions on these important matters now.

And they did.

CRUSADE OF THE AMERICAS

(Continued from page 1)

These telecasts will be seen on television stations in at least 30 cities across the country.

These cities will include Jackson, Memphis, New Orleans, Mobile and Birmingham in the southeast area.

In addition to the above the Radio and Television Commission plans to place 147 newspaper ads in key areas of the nation as well as 234 thirty-second radio spots and other promotion, including mail-outs.

Elaborating further on Soul-Winning Commitment Day, Dr. Sansing said:

"Pastors are urged to consider speaking on personal soul-winning and to confront church members with the fact that soul-winning is every Christian's job. Those who commit themselves should be trained to witness."

"They should have a working knowledge of appropriate scripture verses for leading a lost person to an acceptance of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, and to membership in a New Testament Church."

"Prayer is a must if we are to be

used of the Lord to turn our hemisphere back to God. All across the Americas Christians will be praying for the Crusade of the Americas. Some will participate in all-night or all-day prayer meetings. Many will pause for special prayer for the Crusade in assembly periods.

"The important thing is to recognize the importance of prayer and pray. Every church could and should be an active part of this hemispheric day of prayer."

A brochure on Soul-Winning Commitment Day and Hemispheric Day of Prayer has been mailed to the pastors. This brochure offers suggestions for the observance of the day and for training those who commit themselves to witness. Commitment cards are available from the Baptist Book Store for \$6.96 per thousand.

Other preparation before the March-April Crusades will include training institutes, music witnessing actions, Baptist men's prayer retreat and the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, March 2-9.

Still other Crusade activities will follow on through the year 1970.

as they can get American passports."

No mention was made of the fate of Herbert Caudill, arrested in 1965 with David. Caudill, 65, was released from prison more than a year ago because of failing eyesight and has been under house arrest in Havana ever since.

David received a six-year sentence and Caudill a ten-year sentence when both were convicted of illegal currency exchange by a Cuban court. They were also charged with counter-revolutionary activities and ideological diversionism when arrested.

At the time of their arrests, Fite was a teacher and pastor in Havana and Caudill was superintendent of the

Religion In Review Sees '68 As Hope And Anti-Hope

(Continued from page 1)

doctrine. The Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren Churches merged to form The United Methodist Church, largest of the nation's religious denominations. The Wesleyan Methodists united with the Pilgrim Holiness Church to form The Wesleyan Church and then set about to woo the Free Methodists.

The association director of the Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies declared that America has reached the end of its preaching era and charged that a communication crisis exists in the Christian church. Clandestine worship among "floating" Roman Catholic parishes celebrated unauthorized Mass in living room sanctuaries. Underpaid clergymen were termed a "national disgrace" but famed atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair angrily denounced tax-exempt churches for hiding their wealth.

Ghetto banks received large amounts of church money, ministers took to the streets in support of a variety of social causes and a Negro was cast in the role of Messiah in a large-scale dramatic production in Atlanta, but pollsters still reported finding heavy racial bias among white Gentile church people. The director of the Office of Economic Opportunity said the U.S. cannot win the war on poverty without the help of church people. "The Old Rugged Cross" was found again to be the favorite hymn of most U.S. and Canadian believers.

Missions

Missionary Enterprise flourished, despite the deadening influence of affluence, reaching out to earth's remotest regions through God's ministers of reconciliation.

The year began with 9,200 earnest students at the IVCF-sponsored 8th triennial Missionary Convention bowed in prayer at communion. Veteran missionaries pushed beyond civilized areas to contact down-river Aucas. They ministered to Olympic athletes in Grenoble, France, and Mexico City and in the ghettos of urban jungles. Six died in one day at the hands of Viet Cong while others by other angry men or in accidents.

Radio penetrated lands where missionary presence is forbidden, reaching the antennas of an estimated 540,000,000 receivers throughout the world.

Church growth expert Dr. Donald McGavran declared at the annual Seminar on Church Growth in Winona "more winnable people than ever before," but a young Protestant theologian in Maine stated that "the shocking fact of religion today is that the world is not going to be saved for Christianity." At the beginning of this century, he said, one-third of the world was Christian. By the time the year 2,000 arrives, less than 22 percent will be Christian.

Communists contended that there is really no contradiction between the aims of Christianity and "real socialism," and inaugurated in Prague the growing phenomenon of dialogue with Christians.

Deaths

The Church lost this year such stalwarts as Charles E. Fuller, minister for 43 years on the "Old Fashioned Revival Hour" broadcast; Daniel A. Poling of Christian Herald magazine and Christian Herald Charities; Joe Blinco, former Methodist minister of

England, 11 years an associate of Billy Graham, and director of the Forest Home Christian Conference Center in California; theologians Edward J. Young of Westminster Theological Seminary and Alva J. McClain, founder of Grace Theological Seminary; Bob Jones Sr., founder of Bob Jones University and "one of the last of the old-time evangelists"; Victory Cory, founder of Scripture Press; and Franklin Clark Fry, president of the Lutheran Church in America.

Publishing

Publishing Ventures of the Church were crimped by a January 7 postal hike in bulk mail costs but the leaden soldiers of the printing press marched on. The American Bible Society placed its 50 millionth copy of the Scriptures with men and women of the Armed Forces. More than 100,000 pieces of gospel literature were distributed in 15 languages at the Olympic meets on two continents. Records were published to show that one complete book of the Bible, at least, has now been published in 1,326 languages and dialects around the globe. Cooperative efforts among 15 organizations engaged in printing, publishing and distributing of the Holy Scriptures and related material were hampered out in an informal Chicago meeting sponsored by the new Evangelical Fellowship of Scripture Distributors. The first chapter of Evangelical Press in Colleges (EPIC), sponsored jointly by Evangelical Literature Overseas and the Evangelical Press Association, was organized on the campus of Wheaton College. The Salvation Army celebrated 100 years of evangelism through the printed word and President Lyndon Johnson named three clergymen to serve on an 18-member commission on obscenity and pornography.

Schools

Schools thrived in most places, despite the lengthy and dishonorable New York teachers' strike and soaring costs of education. New York eliminated the Blaine Amendment banning government aid to sectarian schools while the Supreme Court let stand a 1965 New York law requiring public school systems to lend textbooks to students in private and parochial schools.

Legislation was passed unanimously by the Pennsylvania State Senate authorizing public schools in the Commonwealth to have a period of silent prayer or meditation before the beginning of the school day.

Baccalaureate services were ruled unconstitutional in Minnesota if sponsored by public schools.

According to a Louis Harris Survey in mid-summer, 78 percent of the American people feels that the U.S. Supreme Court was wrong in banning prayer from public schools.

Science

Science strode with giant steps across the span of 1968. A new system of record keeping called "electro-optics" succeeded in reducing letters as much as one million times so that they must be read through a high-powered microscope. This marriage of electricity and optics reduced the entire King James' Version of the Bible to a slip of plastic one and one-quarter inches square.

A sun cooker for the disadvantaged nations delivered 558 watts of power and could bring four pints of water to a boil in 22 minutes. It was marketed for \$10 and was guaranteed to last a decade.

There were more than 100 heart transplants, but slightly fewer than half the number of patients survived. From Moscow came the charge that the organ transplants by Western doctors threatened indigents who could be murdered and their vital organs sold.

Youth

Youth revolt in 1968 was viewed as a struggle to overcome a lack of guidelines and shape a better purpose than because of a disregard for guidelines already laid down. Despite the bad press of a small percentage, collegians turned out in great numbers to work for their chosen Presidential candidate. Teens contacted by Gilbert Youth Research reportedly rated the Bible as the most popular book. But in Vietnam, a chaplain among bombed Marines at Khe Sanh said he did indeed find atheists in foxholes even during the heaviest shelling.

For the people of God, the year 1968 made the world a little bigger in terms of opportunities for service. High speed printing presses, faster jets, better communications, media, more refined medical procedures—all offered greater means for bagging the restless globe. The third meeting of evangelical leaders at the Key Bridge Motel near Washington, D.C. brought American theological conservatives closer to spiritual and operational unity as they selected Newark, N.J. for cooperative efforts in evangelism.

But now history has again triumphed over time and the sands of another year have all run through the glass. Let us learn from the lessons of 1968 at the close of the sixties and pray in hope at the doorway of a new decade.

Swor Column To Start Next Week



Dr. Chester Swor

One of the new features in BAPTIST RECORD in its new format will be a weekly column by Dr. Chester Swor. The title of the column will be QUIET TALKS ON RELIGION-IN-LIFE, and, as the title implies, the columns will have to do with everyday applications of the Christian philosophy in the individual's problems, decisions, and inter-personal relationships.

Dr. Swor is a native Mississippian, having been born in Harrison County and reared in Mount Olive and D'Lo. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Mississippi College, later degrees from University of North

Carolina and Columbia University, and he holds honorary doctorates from four colleges and universities.

Formerly Dean of Men and a teacher in the English Department of Mississippi College, he has given all of his time in recent years to religious lecture work, counseling, and writing. He is the author of three books on his own, co-author of two others, and co-author of a book of daily devotions expected from the press in 1969.

Dr. Swor says that the title of his column, QUIET TALKS ON RELIGION-IN-LIFE, reflects the influence which the late Dr. S. D. Gordon had upon his spiritual development many years ago. Dr. Gordon's Quiet Talks in both lecture and writing emphasized the down-to-earth application of the teachings of Jesus, and Dr. Gordon himself lectured and taught in a quiet, penetrating manner. Both Dr. Gordon's manner and his messages made a major contribution to Dr. Swor's own early ministry to students and, later, even to adults.

Although the columns will be directed to readers of all ages, Dr. Swor will be pleased to have questions from young people; and, on occasions, he hopes to use columns in youth counsel. He has spoken on 41 high school and college campuses during 1968 and has a keen concern for young people. Young people who wish to write directly to Dr. Swor may address him at 902 Whitworth Street, Jackson, Mississippi, 39202.

1100 EXPECTED FOR CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 1)

John H. Traylor, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo.

Bible study at each session will be led by Dr. Paul A. Meigs, director of evangelism for the Florida Baptist Convention.

Song leader will be J. B. Betts, music director for the James D. Watson Church, Evangelism Association of Indiana, while the organist will be Edwin Sudduth of the same group. Mrs. Al Brodie of Jackson will be pianist.

Special music at each session will be rendered by Clint and Jarvis Rose Nichols, sacred concert singers of New York City. They sang at the Gulfshore Bible Conference in August

of 1968 and were enthusiastically received.

The Singing Churchmen, composed mostly of ministers of music in churches throughout the state, will sing Tuesday evening under direction of Dan C. Hall, director of the Church Music Department.

The conference will open with the Monday evening session and adjourn at the close of the Wednesday morning session.

Those desiring to stay at the assembly should write immediately to Rev. Tom Douglas, assemblies manager, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, Mississippi, for reservations.

Those desiring to stay at nearby motels or hotels should write directly to the one of their choice.

Caudills and the David Fites will soon be able to return to the United States.

Mrs. Caudill, Mrs. Fite and two of the Fite's sons are also in Havana. Their oldest son was allowed to leave Cuba a few weeks ago and is with David's twin brother, Donald, a doctor in Decatur, Ga. Mrs. Fite (Margaret) is a daughter of the Herbert Caudills.

David was 36 years old on Dec. 23, the day after his release was announced by his father here.

Forty Cuban pastors and 13 laymen, including four women, were also arrested at the time the missionaries were imprisoned.

Missionary Fite Is Released From Cuban Prison

(Continued from page 1)

He learned David was released from prison Dec. 16 and allowed to go to his home in Havana.

"David said the Cuban government handed him an unconditional pardon," the father said. "It was an act of mercy. It was treated as a special case. He is now free and he and his family can come home as soon

that it is doing a significant job.

Perhaps it is accomplishing more than those who are immediately involved in its program realize. There should, however, be a wide spread realization that there are great new challenges ahead.

as they can get American passports."

No mention was made of the fate of Herbert Caudill, arrested in 1965 with David. Caudill, 65, was released from prison more than a year ago because of failing eyesight and has been under house arrest in Havana ever since.

David received a six-year sentence and Caudill a ten-year sentence when both were convicted of illegal currency exchange by a Cuban court. They were also charged with counter-revolutionary activities and ideological diversionism when arrested.

At the time of their arrests, Fite was a teacher and pastor in Havana and Caudill was superintendent of the

Beer Controls Must Be Made Tighter

By J. Clark Hensley
Executive Director
Christian Action Commission

Are you aware that the A. B. C. cannot police the "beer joints" without additional legislation to give them this authority — unless the beer seller also has a liquor license?

This means that more bootlegging of liquor is going to be done through beer outlets — also, more sales to minors and other similar violations. Our "beer control" laws are about as weak as "pink tea". The A. B. C. Division should be given the authority to "police" these outlets for violations of the liquor laws. But it is now a "hands off" policy according to a "test case".

Last month Kenneth Stewart, Director, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division, held a news conference on the relationship of this division to law enforcement as to beer. In part, Mr. Stewart said, "Most of the complaints received in this office and given to the agents in the field are complaints from mothers concerning the illegal sale of beer to their minor children. 'Since the recent decision of the Supreme Court, several counties have completely opened up for the sale of

illegal beer. The bootleggers are being informed in several other counties that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division Enforcement Agents do not have authority to enforce the beer laws.

"Most of the illegal beer comes from out of state — Louisiana, Alabama, Tennessee, and as far away as Missouri, and, of course, no Mississippi state tax has been paid on this beer.

"Before the Supreme Court decision, agents of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division were responsible for people obtaining beer permits in wet counties who had never before had a license. Before this ruling, our enforcement agents had begun to crack down on the beer distributors, putting them in line with the law. Every case of beer sold wholesale by distributors had to show the permit number of the individual purchasing the beer.

"Since July 1, 1966, the State Tax Commission has revoked 120 beer permits. The Alcoholic Beverage Control Division was instrumental in the revocation of 101 of these permits for violations consisting of illegal gambling, illegal sale of whiskey, and il-

legal sales to minors. The other 19 revocations during this period were performed by local officials.

"On the 28th day of October, 1968, the Supreme Court of Mississippi in the case of James Joliff, Jr., versus the State of Mississippi held that enforcement agents of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division of the State Tax Commission did not have the right to make inspections for violations of the beer laws of this State.

"It is amazing to me that the Tax Commission is charged with the responsibility of issuing beer permits and collecting the beer tax and at the same time our agents are not allowed to even make an inspection to ascertain whether or not a place of business has a permit or whether the beer being sold is Mississippi tax paid beer. It is necessary, therefore, that the authority of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division to enforce the laws be directly spelled out in a legislative enactment at the earliest possible date."

"Winked At By The Law"

From our clipping service we read each week of arrests being made by local officers and in other newspapers

we read of reported violations being "winked at by the law". Beer license regulations should be put in line with liquor regulations.

Beer is beverage alcohol and should no longer be treated as a food commodity or household item. The alcoholic beverage industry has always been treated as a licensed and controlled group because of the hazards of their "commodity" to society.

As recently as September 15, 1968 Dr. Dwight L. Wilbur, President of the American Medical Association, speaking before the International Congress on Alcohol and Alcoholism in Washington, D. C., stated, "If alcoholic beverages were invented today, they would be outlawed just as this nation has outlawed marijuana, L.S.D. and other dangerous drugs."

What can we do as Christian citizens? We can encourage our state senator and/or representative to help get the necessary changes in law to give our state better beer laws.

If the Governor should call a special session of the legislature, the time may be upon us when something can be done before the regular session in 1970. We can also encourage our own law enforcement men to enforce what laws we do have.



Greenwood, First Church Is First In State

THE FIRST CHURCH of Greenwood is the first church in the state to receive the Merit Achievement Recognition, and is presented a certificate by the State Sunday School Department. Rev. Clifton Perkins, pastor, (third from left), is seen receiving the award from Billy Hudgens, associate in the Sunday School Department. At left is J. B. Coleman, Jr., Sunday School superintendent while at right is Paf Gulleddge, minister of education. This church is now working toward Advanced Achievement. The Sunday School Achievement Guide has a three fold purpose: to plan, to conduct, and to evaluate a Sunday School program. For churches not yet using the Achievement Guide it is recommended that they consider using this tool to improve their Sunday School program, according to Bryant M. Cummings, State Sunday School director.

WMU Board Sets New Names And Program For Year 1970

NASHVILLE (BP) — New Organization names, new periodicals, and new programs were approved by the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) Executive Board meeting here following sessions of the Southern Baptist Planning and Promotion Conference.

The action gives new names for the current WMU age divisions of Woman's Missionary Societies, the Young Women's Auxiliary, Girls' Auxiliary, and Sunbeam Bands.

The new names beginning in October, 1970, will be:

- Baptist Women (adult division, ages 18 and up.)
- Baptist Young Women (ages 18-29 in the adult division)
- Acteens (youth division, ages 12-17)

—Missions Friends (preschool division, birth through age five).

The name changes resulted from a WMU decision to cooperate with the all-program grouping-grading plan suggested for use in churches beginning in October, 1970.

The four basic age divisions suggested in the plan differ from the four current WMU age-level organizations which grew into existence at different times in the 80-year history of WMU. Promotion of the new names will be launched at the WMU annual meeting June 9-10 in New Orleans.

"We feel that brand-new names will reflect the new age groupings and fresh spirit of Woman's Missionary Union in the 70's," said Mrs. R. L. Mathis, promotion division director for WMU.

"An advisory committee of the Executive Board and the staff of WMU studied possible designations for the new age divisions for nearly a year. It was not easy to give up names that have served us well for many years, but we feel that the new names will eliminate some communications problems that have plagued us in the past," she said.

"For example, Woman's Missionary Society (the adult organization) has always been confused with Woman's Missionary Union (the overall organization). The name Baptist Women eliminates that confusion. It also fits favorably with the name of the adult division in Brotherhood-Baptist Men," said Mrs. Mathis.

She pointed out features of other names. "Acteens has a ring that will appeal to today's young people. The name suggests the action-oriented approach of the organization," Mrs. Mathis said.

"The name Girls in Action retains the popular GA initials of Girls' Auxiliary but brings in a word that more

clearly reflects the purpose of the organization," Mrs. Mathis said.

Mrs. Mathis explained that the Executive Board had wanted to change the name of Sunbeam Band for several years, feeling that the name had lost significance. The board held its action until the grouping-grading plan was approved. "The name Missions Friends reveals both the purpose of the program for preschoolers as well as the immediate concerns of young children," she said.

The board also voted new periodicals to support the 70's organization plan of WMU. Instead of four magazines currently published, there will be seven.

A general magazine for WMU officers will be called Dimension. The reading magazine for Baptist Women will be called Woman's World.

NEW MAGAZINE PLANNED

Contempo is the name of a new magazine for Baptist Young Women. The children's division will have both a leader and a member periodical. Leaders will subscribe to Aware, while girls will subscribe to Discovery.

The preschool division periodical, aimed only at leaders will be called Start.

The grouping-grading plan also required changes in program design, according to Mrs. Mathis. The Executive Board approved the WMU Program Base for the 1970's — a complete statement of the plan of organization, study, and action for all ages.

"Because we began a new organization plan last October we did not need to make drastic changes in our program design for the 70's," Mrs. Mathis said. "We reshaped only those points influenced by the grouping-grading plan, and smoothed out rough places which experience has revealed in the plan for WMU '68."

New features in the 1970's include a restatement of WMU tasks; addition of a missions support chairman for Baptist Women; and special approaches for young women in the adult division.

The board also approved individual achievement plans for Acteens and Girls in Action. The plans replace Forward Steps, which were a feature of Girls' Auxiliary. The Acteen individual achievement plan will be called Studiaid, and the GA plan will be called Missions Adventures.

In other business, the board approved by-laws for presentation at the annual meeting. Plans for transfer of missions education of six-, seven-, and eight-year-old boys to Brotherhood were introduced at a joint WMU-Brotherhood meeting. The transfer is

another change brought on by the grouping-grading plan.

NASHVILLE (BP) — A comprehensive interpretation plan for transferring the missions guidance of Baptist boys ages 6-8 from Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) to Brotherhood was unfolded here to missions leaders from 30 states.

The plan called for national, state, association, and church WMU and Brotherhood leaders to saturate Southern Baptists during the next 20 months with information about the transfer, scheduled for October, 1970 in Southern Baptist churches.

Where the transfer works well, churches will use men, and hopefully couples, to teach missions to boys ages 6-8 through the Royal Ambassador program. The plan will use books and magazines prepared by the Brotherhood Commission to teach missions to boys in this age range.

The boys 6-8 will become part of the Crusader Division of Royal Ambassadors which includes boys through 11. The Pioneer Division of Royal Ambassadors is for boys 12-17.

Both boys and girls ages 6-8 are now a part of the Sunbeams, an organization of the Woman's Missionary Union. Only the boys in this age group will transfer to the Royal Ambassador organization.

The transfer of the responsibility for providing missions experiences for boys is the second among Southern Baptists in the last 16 years.



Dr. Billy E. McCormack

Alcohol Educator To Speak In Christian Action Conferences

Dr. Billy E. McCormack, executive director, American Council on Alcohol Problems, Washington, D. C., will be the principal speaker on "Alcohol Misuse — Drug Abuse" programs held at Arbor Grove Baptist Church near Houston on January 13; Beacon Street Church, Philadelphia, on January 14; First Church, Laurel, on January 16; and First Church, Pascagoula, on January 17.

The programs are sponsored by the Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention. Dr. J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the Commission, will direct each of the conferences, beginning at 9:30 a. m. (See advertisement elsewhere for complete program.)

Dr. McCormack's subject will be

SBC Membership Reaches 11.3 Million

(Continued from Page 1)

cept of church letters is closely related in time to the associational meetings.

The estimate disclosed a possible decline in number of baptisms from 378,937 to 370,726. This would be a decrease of 8,211 from the 1967 total.

The system of reporting Training Union enrollments was changed this year, but the ongoing Training Union enrollment for 1968 was projected to be 2,451,914 compared to 2,514,165 in 1967, a decrease of 62,251. The new system of reporting will be further explained when final figures are released in February.

S. S. ENROLLMENT PROJECTED

Sunday School enrollment was projected as 7,532,215 in 1968; a possible decrease of 46,888.

Woman's Missionary Union enrollments were projected to total 1,401,000.

"How It Looks From Washington," Dr. C. C. Arment, other items on the morning agenda, scheduled to adjourn at 12:30 noon, are "The Beverage Alcohol and Drug Abuse Situations in Mississippi" and a filmstrip presentation on drug abuse.

Dr. McCormack is a native of Louisiana, educated in Baptist schools of that state and at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. In addition to church and denominational experience, he served for a time as assistant to Congressman Overton Brooks in Washington.

The American Council on Alcohol Problems is dedicated to education as to the hazards of alcohol and treatment of alcoholism as well as the moral implications of the alcohol problem.

244 for 1968, an estimated decrease of 43,220.

Brotherhood, the men's and boys' mission education organization, was projected to decrease by 7,881 with a total possible enrollment of 440,889 for 1968.

Music ministry continued upward with an estimated total enrollment of 1,038,612, a projected increase of 19,482.

Total mission gifts were projected to be \$129,697,138 for 1968, a projected increase of \$9,242,269.

Final statistics based on church letters from more than 34,000 SBC churches will be released by the research and statistics department in February.

The preliminary statistical projections were released here during sessions of the Southern Baptist Planning and Promotion Conference.

Hardin-Simmons Band Invited To Inaugural

ABILENE, Tex. (BP) — Hardin-Simmons University's internationally famous Cowboy Band will represent the state of Texas at the inauguration of Richard M. Nixon in Washington Jan. 20.

State Republican Chairman Peter O'Donnell relayed the presidential-elect's invitation to Elwin L. Skiles, president of the Baptist school.

This will be the third inaugural performance for the Cowboy Band. The Cowboys participated in the Hoover (1929) and Eisenhower (1953) ceremonies previously.

Racial Crisis Is Top '68 Story

(Continued from Page 1)

staff in Nashville, after compiling suggestions from editors attending the Southern Baptist Planning and Promotion Conference in Nashville.

In the balloting, stories were ranked one through 10, with 10 points awarded to first place picks, nine points to second place selections, and a decreasing scale of points for each of the other ranks.

The top story of the year, Baptist response to the racial crisis, earned a total of 220 points, including 16 first place votes.

In addition to adoption of the "Statement Concerning the Crisis in Our Nation" by the Southern Baptist Convention and eight state Baptist Conventions, other elements in this story included such news reports throughout the year as summarized on the ballot:

"Home Mission Board takes lead in implementing (Crisis in Nation) statement; SBC agency workers meet twice to follow up statement; Baptist leaders react with shock, grief, to Martin Luther King assassination; Memphis pastors march, preach on King death; Memphis church fires deacons instead of pastor over racial dispute; Home Mission Board pledges work in ghettos, elects Negro to professional staff; Christian Life Commission seminar speeches urge churches to root out racism; survey shows 500 Baptist churches have Negro members; 3,800 have policies to accept Negroes."

The second-ranked story, a debate in the SBC over the relationship between evangelism and social action, polled a total of 156 points, 64 less than the number one story. The debate story included speeches by layman Maxey Jarman of Nashville urg-

ing Baptists to avoid social and political issues and to stick to evangelism, by SBC evangelism leader C. E. Autrey charging Baptist papers with trying to lead the denomination towards socialism; and by SBC President W. A. Criswell urging unity within the denomination.

Houston Ranked Third

Ranked third, the historic session of the SBC in Houston polled 127 points and included such elements as the overwhelming vote to keep the present name of the convention in a "straw ballot;" the reaction to the assassination of Robert Kennedy; the election of W. A. Criswell of Dallas as president, who promptly said he had changed on the race issue; the adoption of the "Crisis in the Nation" statement; and a plea from Seminary Professor Clark Pinnoch for the SBC to forsake liberalism.

The fourth and fifth ranked stories were as closely related as the votes that separated them. Fourth, with 125 points, was the federal aid question for Baptist schools; and fifth, with 122 points, was action by several state conventions to release Baptist schools.

Federal aid developments during the year included a vote by the Atlanta Baptist Association to allow federal aid for its college; action by the University of Richmond to receive federal aid; adoption of a federal aid policy statement by Missouri Baptists; and action by the Georgia convention forbidding tax funds for schools, after Mercer trustees proposed taking all federal aid available.

Also during the year, Maryland Baptists voted to sell property of a Baptist school it closed in 1968, and Texas Baptists voted to sever ties with Baylor University College of Medicine to allow it to become a priv-

ate school. Also in Texas, a controversial staff report recommended selling two Baptist schools and releasing another; but no final action was taken.

In related developments, Virginia Baptists voted to delay a phase-out of support for five schools, and Florida Baptists dismissed trustees for a proposed school near West Palm Beach to allow it to become an institution of the local association.

The Crusade of the Americas evangelist campaign, ranking sixth with 114 votes, included such 1968 developments as a hemisphere-wide laymen's meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, that stressed lay involvement; approval of a world-wide crusade by the coordinating committee of the crusade; a project to establish 500 new churches, which was hampered by lack of funds; and a plan to match 41,000 prayer partners throughout the continent.

A controversy over baptism and the Lord's Supper in several states ranked seventh, with 108 votes. During the year, two churches in Charlotte, N. C., were ousted from a local association because of baptism practices; the Arkansas convention withdrew fellowship from four churches over alien immersion and open communion; a Baptist association in Houston rejected the application of a church over doctrine issues; and the New Mexico convention voted to leave the doctrinal questions up to local associations.

Ranked eighth, with 96 votes, was a financial crisis facing Baptist loan organizations in Kansas, and a related situation in Texas. During the year, the SBC Home Mission Board came to the aid of the Kansas loan association to prevent its bankruptcy. An investigation was conducted in

Texas over a "mistake in judgment" concerning speculative land deals in California, but the loan group was cleared of any dishonesty.

Baptist concern with the ecumenical movement was ranked ninth with 61 points. Developments in 1968 included the establishment of an Ecumenical Institute at Wake Forest University; a speech urging Baptist unity by the president of the American Baptist Convention at the Nashville church where the president of the SBC was pastor; several speeches by Catholics at Baptist meetings and Baptists at Catholic meetings; and an invitation, later refused, for Texas Baptists to join a merged Texas Council of Churches and Catholic Conference.

Ranked tenth, with 34 points, was increased Baptist emphasis on ministry in urban areas with seminars urging a strategy for the inner city which the SBC Home Mission Board later devised.

Other stories on the ballot which polled more than 10 points included (in order): Vietnam war continues to concern Baptists (28 votes); Supreme Court faces major church-state cases (28 votes); new Social Security law requiring clergy exemption goes into effect (23); total study of BSU program started (21); Baptist youth show increased concern and involvement (15); foreign missions advance continues (11); Georgetown College drops ban against dancing and Kentucky convention slaps trustees (11); and Congress approves bills aimed at helping people (10).

One significant Baptist story broke too late in the year to be included on the ballots: the release by Cuban officials of imprisoned SBC missionary David Fife after six years in jail on illegal currency exchange charges.



Discussing New Approaches To Baptist Programs

NASHVILLE (BP) — DISCUSSING NEW APPROACHES to Baptist programs are representatives from four areas of denominational work who participated in the Southern Baptist Planning and Promotion Conference, Dec. 9-13. (Left to right) Charles E. Raley, Sunday School secretary from Ohio; Keith Harris, student secretary from Maryland; Charles F. Polston, Training Union secretary from New Mexico; and G. W. Repond, Superintendent of missions from Oregon-Washington, were among 1,350 Southern Baptist leaders who made preparation for the 1970's during the week of conferences and joint sessions. — (BP PHOTO).

Young Begins Mission Ministry In Japan; His Brother To Star In Space Mission

By Mike Dixon

Looking every inch the avant-garde student-teacher that he is, Dr. Hugh H. Young, wearing Indian moccasins, corduroy trousers, a striped sport shirt, and a heavy but well-trimmed moustache, relaxed in a chair and talked candidly about himself, a Southern Baptist missionary, and his brother, John Young, a member of the Apollo 10 team of astronauts.

The suspected contrast between two brothers with such diverse missions—one to teach in a Baptist university in Japan, the other to engage in a

daring lunar exploration—was lessened when Hugh, regarding his questioner with dark brown eyes, said: "I think John has a calling to do what he is doing, just as I have. As I see it, God uses men like my brother, even when they may be unaware that their actions are part of God's plan."

The launching schedule for 1969 calls for U. S. Navy Commander John Young, veteran of two space missions, to drive the main Apollo craft while two teammates drop down in a lunar module for a close

look at the moon's surface.

In Hugh Young's view our government's space program is in keeping with God's will that man explore the universe and communicate, if possible, with any other beings who might inhabit it. Our space men are opening up frontiers, just as missionaries have done on earth, he said.

"What's more, the by-products of space science are tremendous," he went on. "Education especially stands to profit from the research fallout of computerized space technology." He expects to see much future learn-

ing done with machines hooked up to computers, with the student progressing at his own rate.

"Students are in a large measure the key to the future," Dr. Young told his interviewer. "That's why teaching is so important to me. It's also why I have a keen interest in programmed self-instruction. It releases the teacher for more personal attention to each student."

Hugh and John Young grew up in the central Florida city of Orlando, which is becoming a center for engineering and research phases of the national space industry. (Cape Kennedy is about 50 miles due east.) Hugh recalled that his older brother did well in scientific subjects in school and once drew up some rather sophisticated three-dimensional plans for their father, a civil engineer. "And he often designed airplanes," Hugh said.

Having completed all but the last of their 16 weeks of missionary orientation at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Assembly, Dr. and Mrs. Young said they hope to go to Japan early in 1969 and, following two years of language study, to join the faculty of Seinan Gakuin, Baptist university in Fukuoka.

The new missionary turned the discussion to his particular interest in a self-instructional course in French, a project on which he did much research for his doctoral thesis at the University of Georgia. "Something like this excites me," he said. "It remains incomplete as a program but I hope to someday develop it further. I might, even be able to use something like it in teaching French to my Japanese students."

Similar innovations, already in use, are helping to change the complexion of modern education, he pointed out, but many educators, like many ministers, are still mainly problem-oriented. "All of us need to become more person-oriented," he said.

"Maybe the answer lies in our learning to love people enough to ac-

(Continued on page 7)



Baptist Men Meet To Plan For July Evangelism Congress

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The initial meeting for the Baptist Men's Congress on Evangelism and Lay Involvement was recently held in Nashville, Tennessee, with the following men in attendance (left to right): John Chadwell of the National Baptist Convention of America; Dr. Robert S. Denny of the Baptist World Alliance; Dr. S. E. Grinstead of the

National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.; Owen Cooper (Yazoo City, Miss.) of the Southern Baptist Convention; Deenwood McCord of the National Baptist Convention of America; R. T. Henderson of the Southern Baptist Convention; and Chester E. Dixon of the Progressive National Baptist Convention. This Congress will be held July 3-5, 1969, in Nashville, Tennessee.

Missions In Montana - - Big Sky Country

By F. Leroy Smith

When the executive board of our convention elected me as superintendent of area missions in Montana, I realized that I was facing an impossible task, humanly speaking. Yet I knew this was the will of God for my ministry, so I accepted the challenge without being fully aware of my friends and allies in this gigantic undertaking.

I could not conceive of the progress that could and would be made in less than two years when I assumed the position of superintendent of area missions January 1, 1967. There were 29 churches and 8 missions in operation and we now have 31 churches and 29 missions for a total of 60 units of organization.

I am sure you ask, as I do, how could so much be done in such a short time. The answer to this is twofold. One: First and foremost is the mission concern of 30 dedicated pastors and the fine Christian lay workers in their churches. Our pastors and people have a concern for the lost and unenlightened people that leads them beyond the borders of their own fields.

Two: Second, there is a prayerful and financial assistance that we receive from Mississippi Baptist Convention where many churches and individual Christians whose love and concern for pioneer missions have been a tremendous inspiration to our people. The Mississippi Baptist Con-

vention, her churches and individuals have shared in both a tangible and intangible way in every mission we have started. They have assisted in providing buildings, pastors' salaries and equipment in almost every mission that has been started in the past two years.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention through the Pioneer Missions Committee has provided us with from 17 to 26 summer missionary students each summer and these dedicated young people have rendered an invaluable service and have made a tremendous impact on the people of Montana. The director of missions of one of our universities, when told what the young people were doing, replied, "I did not know we had any young people so dedicated to God." The investment that Mississippi Baptists are making in these summer missionary students is paying in tremendous dividends.

When you combine the mission concern of our Montana pastors and churches, Mississippi Baptists, the Home Mission Board, and the Northern Plains Baptist Convention, you get results like the ones listed below:

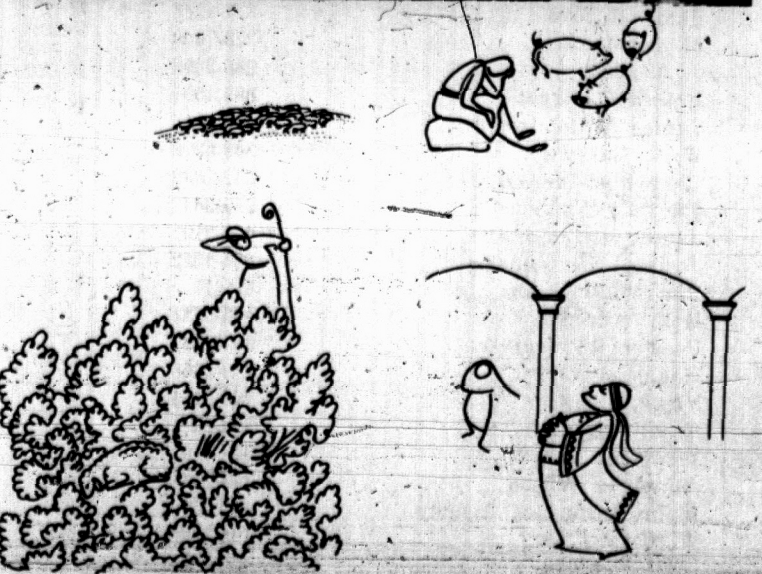
One: The First Southern Baptist Church of Great Falls, Montana, discovered a need for missions in Conrad, Cascade, and Havre, Montana, and through their Missions Committee and with the help of Mississippi Baptists, erected a building in each

of these towns and assisted in getting a pastor on each field. The work is doing well in each of these fields and the phenomenal growth in Havre and their mission outreach are such an inspiration. As soon as the building at Havre was completed, these fine people reached out to the Havre Radar Station and established a Bible Fellowship Mission that meets every week. Then they discovered a need 26 miles away for a mission and established work there. The pastor drives to Chinook every Sunday morning and then returns for the morning worship service in Havre.

Two: The Hamilton Baptist Church discovered a need in Darby, Montana, for a mission so the pastor organized a home fellowship and Bible class. This grew so rapidly that they needed two such classes and then they felt the need for a full Sunday school and mission program. This was organized in July of 1968 and Rev. Robin Nichols, a summer missionary student from Vicksburg, Mississippi, and student at Mississippi College, felt the Lord wanted him to work here so he transferred from Mississippi College to the University of Montana and is now serving as pastor at the mission at Darby and as Baptist Student Director at Montana University. He could not remain here without the help of the churches in Mississippi.

Three: The Miles City Baptist Church called Rev. Ovis E. Fairley in July of 1967 as their pastor. He moved on the field in August, and God has richly blessed the ministry of this church and pastor. This fine pastor experienced life's greatest sorrow in the loss of his devoted wife and mother of his five children last

(Continued on page 6)



Today's English Version

A SOLDIER reads from Today's English Version of the New Testament (top photo). Illustrations for the translation were drawn by Annie Vallotton, who now lives in Paris. Bottom photo, at top right, the Prodigal Son among swine; lower left, a shepherd searches for his lost sheep; lower right, a pious Pharisee strolls by the Temple.

"GOOD NEWS" TRANSLATION

For Modern Man: A New Look At Old Literature

"Avoid discussing politics and religion," runs the familiar advice to the hostess, "if you would have pleasant conversation at your dinner party."

But the balance sheets of publishers in the last couple of years indicate that religion may indeed be a subject for discussion that interests today's dinner guests more than any others.

Proof of this lies in the distribution reports of a 600-page paperback volume which bears the title, "Good News for Modern Man," the New Testament in Today's English Version. It is translation into language as contemporary as the morning newspaper.

In a country in which it has generally been assumed that everyone who wanted a Bible had one, this version of the New Testament was snapped up by 12 million readers within the first two years of its publication.

No one could have been more surprised than its publishers, the American Bible Society. The new translation had originally been intended primarily for persons, both in this country and abroad, who were relative newcomers to the English language. With English rapidly becoming the most popular "second language" in most areas of the world, the Bible Society felt a need for a

version of the Scriptures that could be grasped by persons for whom the archaic usages of the King James Version were a discouraging puzzle.

But when the Today's English Version came out in September, 1966, it quickly caught on with many other persons as well. Some of the more enthusiastic response came not from readers new to the English language but from a segment of the population presumably highly skilled in its use—students on college campuses.

The reaction of many persons to the modern version may be summed up in the comment of a 12-year old girl: "This can't be the Bible," she said as she glanced up from the pages. "I can understand it!"

Gone, in Today's English Version, are the "thees" and "thous," the "verities" and "untos." Current measurements of time and distance help the present-day reader make sense out of parables and historical accounts.

Times of day are clarified in the TEV. "It was getting on toward evening when Joseph of Arimathea arrived."

The words of Jesus take on a new immediacy in the new version. "Which of you can live a few more years by worrying about it? Look at the birds flying around; they do not plant seeds, gather a harvest, and put it in barns. Your father in heaven takes care of them. Aren't you worth much more than birds?"

Nor does the new version mince words in dealing with "the facts of life." The Christmas story in Luke states that Joseph went to Bethlehem "to register himself with Mary, who was promised in marriage to him. She was pregnant, and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have the baby. She gave birth to her first son, wrapped him in clothes and laid him in a manger—there was no room for them to stay in the inn."

One reviewer writing in the Saturday Review characterized the style of the Today's English Version as "racy vernacular." It includes such expressions as "good-for-nothing," "show-offs," and "Be quick about it, friend!"—the latter being Jesus' words to Judas as he was about to betray his master. A major contribution to the popular-

ity of the TEV, as the Bible Society refers to the new translation, has come from the unusual illustrations generously sprinkled throughout the text. They are simple but sprightly line drawings, done by the Swiss-born artist Annie Vallotton who now makes her home in Paris.

The pet drawings, so unlike conventional Biblical art, use the same economy of line as do political cartoons to convey a mood, a situation. Her Pharisee strolls imperiously past the Temple pillar, hands piously folded over an ample belly and a holier-than-thou tilt to his smug face.

Her Prodigal Son sits on a rock in utter despair amid three amiable, fat pigs.

Her anxious Shepherd searches for his lost, curly lamb through a thicket of even curlier shrubbery in a design reminiscent of the how-many-birds-can-you-find-in-this-picture puzzles of children's magazines.

Translator of the TEV New Testament was Dr. Robert G. Bratcher, of the translations staff of the American Bible Society. The son of missionaries to Brazil, Dr. Bratcher developed a sensitivity to languages early in life and added to this skill the technical competence of academic training.

He worked almost exclusively from the manuscript of an up-dated edition.

(Continued on page 6)

Thursday, January 2, 1969

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



A Bright And Happy New Year

MAKE THIS A BRIGHT AND HAPPY NEW YEAR by thanking God for his blessings to us as individuals and as

a nation. Psalm 145:2 "Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever."—(Home Board Photo.)

CALLING A PASTOR

We Did It This Way

By John Thomason
Trinity Baptist Church
Billings, Montana

Here's one successful way a prospective pastor and church got together. The distance involved makes this case unusual in some ways, but we believe the basic idea is worth sharing.

A pastor friend recommended me

to this church. He first called to see whether I was agreeable. Then a phone call came from the chairman of the pulpit committee 1100 miles away. He described the church, the area, the situation, and the challenge. He then asked whether I would be interested in being considered as pastor.

When I answered in the affirmative, he called a meeting of the pulpit committee to consider the matter. A couple of nights later he again called to say that the church had agreed to ask us to come preach in view of a call.

I thought it would be unwise to make a decision on the basis of a one day's acquaintance. We first considered a week of preaching, but ruled this out because I was in school. So we agreed on a full weekend of preaching and getting acquainted.

My family and I arrived at the prospective field of work on Thursday night. We were met by a couple from the church in whose house we were to stay for the week-end.

Friday morning we made a tour of the church field and the city. This helped greatly in our evaluating the challenge and the possibilities in the work.

On Friday night I preached. Afterwards we had an informal meeting with the pulpit committee and the deacons and their families.

Saturday morning I attended a basketball tournament in which the local high school team was competing. At the same time my wife shopped with our hostess and met still other members of the church and the church community.

I preached again Saturday night to a larger group. Sunday morning

(Continued on page 6)

A New Year's Resolution

I WILL...
like David, lift up mine eyes unto the hill from whence cometh my help;
like Abraham, trust implicitly in my God;
like Enoch, walk in daily fellowship with my Heavenly Father;
like Jehoshaphat, prepare my heart to seek God;
like Moses, choose rather to suffer than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;
like Daniel, commune with my God at all times;
like Job, be patient under all circumstances;
like Caleb and Joshua, refuse to be discouraged because of superior numbers;
like Joseph, turn my back to all seductive advances;
like Gideon, advance even though my friends be few;
like Aaron and Hur, uphold the hands of my spiritual leaders;
like Isaiah, consecrate myself to do God's work;
like Andrew, strive to lead my brother into a closer walk with Christ;
like John, lean upon the bosom of the Master and imbibe of His Spirit;
like Stephen, manifest a forgiving spirit toward all who seek my hurt;
like Timothy, study the Word of God;
like the heavenly host, proclaim the message of peace on earth;
and like my Lord Himself, overcome all earthly allurements by refusing to succumb to their enticements.

Realizing that I cannot hope to achieve these objectives by my own strength, I will rely upon Christ for "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

—GEORGE BURGER

A New Look At Old

(Continued from Page 5)

tion of the Greek New Testament, published by the United Bible Societies only a few months before the TEV came out.

Dr. Bratcher worked mostly at home, writing out his manuscript in longhand. Each evening, with the family at the supper table, he would ask his wife or one of their three children to read aloud his day's work. If the reader faltered over a phrase Dr. Bratcher re-worked it until the words came easily and naturally.

"The hardest part was trying to blot out all my academic and theological training and put myself in the shoes of a reader for whom English might be only a second language," he recalled.

Once a portion of the translation passed muster at the Bratcher supper table, it was duplicated and copies sent to 20 outstanding Bible scholars and translators for further suggestions.

Their recommendations were carefully weighed, but the finished product is basically the work of Dr. Bratcher.

A hospital chaplain reported "a positive physical reaction among patients when I used the TEV at the Protestant chaplaincy services. They all

sat right up, listened intently, and wondered why they had never heard this message before. They spoke about the words 'coming alive' for the first time."

A 15-year old boy from Virginia wrote: "I had been searching for a long time for a New Testament which spoke to God like I do — 'you' instead of 'thou' etc., and also gave the message in simple direct English without all those hifalutin' words. I was about to give up in despair. Then yours hit me. I flipped for it. I love it — the format, the pictures, the translation itself — especially the translation."

There have been some who have criticized the TEV for not possessing the majesty and the beauty of the English of the King James Version.

Dr. Bratcher is the first to acknowledge that the TEV is not expected to wipe out the more traditional versions. "Ideally, of course, there should be three translations in each of the major languages," he said, "a traditional version like the King James, a version for scholars like the Jerusalem Bible, and a common language translation that can constantly be brought up to date as the language changes."

Fisher Re-Elected To Top Regional Post

President Harold Fisher of Blue Mountain College has been re-elected chairman of the Elementary Commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The Elementary Commission is one of three Commissions of the Southern Association, an accrediting agency which accredits schools in the eleven states of the southern region.

His duties include presiding over meetings of the seventy-seven member Commission from eleven states and heading an Executive Committee of seven members which conducts business while the Commission is not in session. He will serve as a member of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee, the governing body of the Southern Association.

President Fisher has been active in the Southern Association since 1966. He is also chairman of the Mississippi Committee on Elementary Education of the Southern Association and currently serves as President of the Mississippi Foundation of Independent Colleges.

Ten Commandments Of A Happy New Year

1. Accept and appropriate for the inner life the peace brought by the Christmas Christ.
2. Find gladness in the memory of every great experience through the past, in the glow of every present blessing, in the hope of all future joys.
3. Be humble and lowly of heart; always ready to forgive, quick to recognize your faults and slow to take offense.
4. Center the thoughts each day on how much love, service, and kindness can be given instead of what material things are lacking.
5. Seek earnestly divine guidance. Wait on the Lord and run not ahead of His plans. No blunder can ever be made when life is lived within His will.
6. Love — and there will be no room for envy. Trust — and there will be no place for worry. Have faith and there will be no doubts.
7. Magnify the things of eternal value and minimize the temporary. Put aside the petty cares that pass with the passing day.
8. Look for all that is beautiful in nature, all that is good in man, and all that is true in the Divine.
9. Steady life by having a lofty purpose. Lift its horizon by contemplating the needs of all mankind. Widen the vision by loving the world as God loved it.
10. Rest in Christ. He is the secret of the abundant life, the fulfillment of every dream and desire.

—Rosalee Mills Appleby

Missions In Montana

(Continued from Page 5)

March, but this sorrow served to increase his ministry tremendously. The Miles City Baptist Church has grown from 35 to 110 in Sunday School in one year, has established a mission Sunday school in northern Miles City when there was a tremendous need, has established missions in Rock Springs 60 miles north of Miles City, a mission in Powderville 75 miles southeast of Miles City, and a mission in Bell Creek 115 miles south. These missions are all growing, and the pastor and dedicated laymen are ministering in a wonderful way. The help of Mississippi Baptists and the Home Mission Board makes such a mission endeavor possible.

We do need a church or churches who would underwrite a payment of \$125.00 per month for a relocatable chapel building at Bell Creek. There are 1,000 people in Bell Creek, a new oil town, who have moved into this new oil town and the estimated population will be 5,000 within the next four years. There is not a single church of any denomination in this town. They have brought in 320 oil wells in 15 months and are bringing in new ones at the rate of 3 per week at the present time.

Sam Gary, the discoverer and planner of the city and greatest investor, is planning to build a church building but it will have to be a non-denominational church. He would build one for us if we would agree to be non-denominational. These people have been meeting in an old oil tank for Sunday school and worship with classes meeting in cars. Cold weather is coming and they will be forced to disperse with services un-

less a meeting place is provided. A \$9,900.00 relocatable chapel, 24 x 55 feet, will meet their needs.

The water and sewer systems for the new city are all installed and the houses are being built at a rapid pace, but 90% of the people live in trailer houses and none of our people have room for services in their homes. Four: We have had the support of the Home Mission Board in providing salary supplements for 15 pastors and loans for the construction of buildings. The Home Mission Board, at one time or another, has supplemented the salary of every pastor in Montana.

Five: The Northern Plains Baptist Convention, under the fine leadership of Rev. John P. Baker, has helped us every time we have called on them. When we need help to move a pastor on a field or when any emergency arises, they respond beyond what we could even expect. The State Mission Funds of this new convention are quite limited but our state leadership is using all of these resources to the utmost.

There is a great mission need in the Big Sky Country of Montana and, by the Grace of God and through the support of the Mississippi Baptists, the Home Mission Board, the Northern Plains Baptist Convention, and churches and individuals throughout America, we will plant the Gospel of the Lord Jesus in every town in Montana that needs a Baptist witness.

Heap high the farmer's wintry hoard!
Heap high the golden corn!
No richer gift has Autumn poured
From out her lavish horn.
—John Greenleaf Whittier

We Did It This Way

(Continued from Page 5)

I was an observer in a Sunday School class. The morning worship was followed by a basket dinner. Here again we had personal contact with many of the people.

While the rest of the people finished eating, I again met with the pulpit committee in a more formal meeting. We met for about two hours in an atmosphere of open frankness. When the meeting was over we were sure that we knew each other.

Following the evening message the church voted unanimously to call us as pastor. The hour of fellowship afterwards has an unusually happy, victorious quality about it.

On Monday, since this church is in a pioneer area, we had lunch with the area missionary before our flight back home.

It was after about a week of prayer, consideration, and consultation with pastor friends and others, that we accepted the call to the new field. We did so with complete assurance that the Lord had really called us to this new field of labor.

Some people seem to think they are worth a lot of money just because they have a lot of it.—Seth Parker

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The outstanding choral director, Paul Green, will direct three one-night choral clinics in Mississippi in January. Mr. Green is Dean, School of Fine Arts, Houston Baptist College, Houston, Texas.

LOCATION OF CLINICS

Monday, Jan. 13, Highland Church, Laurel — Bill Butler, Minister of Music
Tuesday, Jan. 14, First Church, Greenwood — Lewis Bridges, Minister of Music
Wednesday, Jan. 15, Broadmoor Church, Jackson — Bill Burnstead, Minister of Music

LOCAL COORDINATORS

The local music directors in each area of the clinics are working out the schedule and program to best fit their needs. Therefore, we will not be able to print a schedule here since each will be different. The clinics in Laurel and Greenwood will probably start in late afternoon or early evening. The clinic in Jackson will begin after prayer meeting on Wednesday. In addition, there will be a noon luncheon and discussion period in Jackson on Wednesday with music directors and Mr. Green attending.

CONTACT LOCAL COORDINATOR FOR INFORMATION

Any person interested in attending one of the clinics should contact the local coordinator for the details.

Music For 1968 State Junior Choral Festival

"Christ Is Risen, Alleluia," Gordon Young, Broadman, (Cantata, \$1.25)
"In Christ There Is No East or West," Beryl Red, Broadman, (1969 VBS Anthem, 25c); "African Noel," Aden G. Lewis, Plymouth Music Co., (Jr. Musician Oct.-Dec. 1968—25c); "Freedom Bells," Mary E. Caldwell, Broadman, (Junior Musician, July-Sept. 1968—25c); Hymn: "More Like Jesus Would I Be."

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Alcohol Misuse—Drug Abuse

Four Area Conference—January 13-17, 1969

Christian Action Commission

Jan. 13—Arbor Grove Church near Houston
Jan. 14—Beacon Street Church, Philadelphia
Jan. 16—First Church, Laurel
Jan. 17—First Church, Pascagoula

9:30 a.m.—"The Beverage Alcohol Situation" in Mississippi"

Dr. J. Clark Hensley, Executive Director, Christian Action Commission

9:50 a.m.—Resources available to cope with the situation

Legislation needed to strengthen laws

10:30 a.m.—Coke and coffee break

10:45 a.m.—"HOW IT LOOKS FROM WASHINGTON, D. C."

DR. BILLY E. MCCORMACK

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, AMERICAN COUNCIL

ON ALCOHOL PROBLEMS

11:30 a.m.—"The Drug Situation in Mississippi"

11:40 a.m.—Filmstrip presentation on drug abuse

12:30 p.m.—Other resources available to cope with drug abuse

Legislative Educational

Church members, law enforcement people, pastors and staff members are all invited to these area conferences.

Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention

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W. A. (Bill) Taylor Jr., president of Taylor Machine Works, Louisville, shows the bronze plaque presented by company employees during dedication services at the firm's new Spiritual Center. The plaque is in memory of the late W. A. Taylor Sr., a prominent Baptist who founded the company in 1927, and whose spiritual leadership led to the construction of the center.

New Chapel At Taylor Machine Works Dedicated With Senator Stennis Speaker

The new Republican administration will favor the sound industrial development of any area, including the South, according to U. S. Sen. John C. Stennis.

"But I would not expect any particular favoritism," added the Mississippi senator in a speech at dedication ceremonies at Taylor Machine Works, Louisville on Dec. 16.

"If any discrimination against the South should show up, I would vigorously oppose it," Stennis continued. "However, real constructive development in Mississippi will depend primarily on what the people of Mississippi do about it, not what the administration does."

The senator was guest-of-honor at ceremonies dedicating the new spiritual center and recognizing a \$1 mil-

lion expansion at Taylor Machine Works. The expansion includes a three-story office annex; a training center; a burning and shearing building with covered steel storage; a fabricating and assembly building; a structure for the maintenance of the Taylor truck fleet; another building for the fitting of masts on new machines; and a repair and inspection facility.

The center was the culmination of a dream by the late W. A. Taylor Sr., founder of the company in 1927 with one helper. Throughout the years, Taylor, who died last May, based his business on the motto "Faith, Vision, Work," words emblazoned across the front of the firm's modern office entrance, part of a recently completed \$1 million program.

Begins Ministry In Japan

(Continued from page 5)

cept them as they are, and then let God lead them through us," he explained. "I think God is constantly readjusting limits for us, defined in his love for us. So to the extent that we love others we can be channels through whom God acts."

But can you suggest some things that Baptists might do now, he was asked.

He replied that, for one thing, the Foreign Mission Board might provide scholarships for youths to study abroad, to live with university students, be part of their community—Christian witnesses in their midst.

Another approach might be through team ministries. "I mean having persons trained in medicine, psychology, social work, and the conventional ministry working as a team in an area," he said. "What one team member is unable to do, another might do."

Hugh Young married Norma Lucas, of Louisville, Ky., in January, 1968. They had met in Louisville's old Hay Market section, where Hugh was doing field work as a student in Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Norma was helping to take a church census. Both are artists and together they painted scenes of the Hay Market area, while ministering to people in various ways and living in an inner city apartment.



DR. HUGH H. YOUNG, missionary, may be reflecting upon his assignment to teach in a Baptist school in Japan or upon that of his brother, John Young, a member of the Apollo 10 team of astronauts, slated for a lunar mission in 1969.

During the interview, Norma, pert and slightly pixieish, sat nearby, knitting a sweater. With a master's degree in fine arts from the University of Georgia and a Fulbright scholarship she studied art history in a university in Tubingen, Germany, during the 1962-63 school year, while Hugh kept their apartment and took courses in French. (He also studied Spanish in Spain for a month, returned to Germany, and translated Spanish into German in his classes.)

Before being appointed missionaries the Youngs taught at Kentucky Southern College, Louisville. Hugh taught French, Norma art history. "That was the high point in my life," Hugh said. "With my doctor of education degree completed I had time to help students find meaning in their lives." Following the end of the school year they took a three-month study tour of France, Belgium, and Germany.

As a student he had done a lot of soul-searching, trying to find his identity and purpose in life, Hugh said. He believes he understands something of what Jacob went through when he "wrestled" all night with God.

His eyes highlighted the intensity of his words, as he reflected: "Insights into aligning my ambitions and goals with the will of God came only when I reached the point of arguing with him. I think that many people have to argue with God to discover what they must do in life. It's like each person working out his own salvation."

The Sunday School Lesson

THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON— The Beginning Of The Good News

By Clifton J. Allen
Mark 1:1-20

This lesson marks the beginning of a new six-year cycle of the International Sunday School Lessons. Appropriately, the first unit is a study of the Gospel of Mark. Strong evidence confirms the fact that John Mark, whose mother's name was Mary and who in his youth and young manhood lived in Jerusalem, was the author. He was a missionary companion of Paul and Barnabas—at first undependable but later a proved and valued associate. He was also closely associated with Simon Peter, called by Peter "my son" and described by a later writer as Peter's interpreter. The plan and content of Mark's Gospel shows the strong impact of Peter's preaching. Mark may have written his Gospel in Rome, perhaps around A.D. 65, and probably for readers of the Roman and Greek world. His Gospel portrays Jesus as a mighty worker and as the Son of man who gave "his life a ransom for many."

The Lesson Explained The Gospel of Jesus Christ Verse 1

"The beginning" means an introduction. Mark dealt with the events and deeds he considered most essential in telling the story of Jesus. Mark's account is his interpretation of the ministry and mission of Jesus and of the nature and meaning of Jesus as the Redeemer of men. Mark described him as the Messiah of promise and as the strong Son of God, "who went about doing good," who poured out his energy in deeds of mercy, and who consciously faced the necessity for his self-giving on the cross as a fulfillment of his divine mission. While emphasizing both the humanity and deity of Jesus, Mark caught the spirit of Jesus' servanthood and told the story of "the Man of action" who was the Servant-Redeemer and who is now our risen Lord.

Prophet-Forerunner Verses 2-8

In fulfillment of prophecy, of both Malachi and Isaiah, John was the messenger to prepare the way for the Messiah and the voice to announce his coming and to call the people to repentance in preparation for the advent of the Messiah.

With a sense of divine anointing, John called people to repent, to turn from their self-complacency and hypocrisy and covetousness and lust and pride, so that they might experience the forgiveness of God. Something about John's message had the authentic ring of a word from heaven. He knew that One mightier than himself, even the Messiah, was about to appear. He felt unworthy to unloose the sandals from the feet of the One to come, but he could prepare the way for him by calling the people of his generation to life-changing repentance. Multitudes rushed out to hear him. And great numbers accepted baptism at John's hands thereby confessing their sin and witnessing to their repentance before God. John turned the attention of his penitent hearers to the mightier One,

whose baptism would be, not with water, but with the Holy Spirit.

Baptism And Temptation Verses 9-13

The question arises, Why was Jesus baptized? He had no need to repent, for he was sinless. For one thing, he was identifying himself with the ministry and witness of John the Baptist. Jesus declared by his baptism the fact of his coming death and resurrection as the culmination of his redemptive mission. By his baptism, Jesus openly announced his dedication to his saving mission in the world. In response, the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus in a special visitation, equipping him for his mission and ministry; and a voice from heaven declared the Father's approval. The words (from Psalm 2:7 and Isa. 42:1) declared Jesus to be the Messiah and the Suffering Servant. He will be King, but he must also suffer on the cross.

Mark tells in briefest fashion of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. It was a time of severest testing, as Jesus thought through the nature and objectives and methods of his ministry. Jesus' temptation was no sham fight; it was a struggle that called forth Jesus' utmost resources of moral commitment and spiritual devotion to the will of God. When Jesus came from the wilderness, he knew what he was to do and how he was to do it, and he was prepared to give himself in service and sacrifice to fulfill the eternal purpose of God.



Rev. W. L. Day

Evangelism Team Names New Pastor-Adviser

The James D. Watson, Church Evangelism Association, of Indianapolis, has announced that Rev. W. L. Day has accepted an advisory position in its organization as pastor-advisor.

Mr. Day is pastor of the Fairview Church, Indianapolis, where he has served for the past two and one-half years. He has formerly served as associate pastor of the First Church, Jackson, and as pastor at Pascagoula, Collins, and Louisville. Before coming to Indianapolis he had served as pastor of the Calvary Church of Tupelo for 17 years.

Gen. 12:1-4; Isa. 45:22; 53:2-12; 56:1-8
By Bill Duncan

With this lesson we move into a new unit of study entitled: The World Mission of Our Church. The role of the church in world missions is a necessary emphasis as we reinterpret our task in this changing world. The responsibility of the church has not lessened with these years. Because of change in government, communications, and population, we face a world that has great needs. This brings to our doorstep man who is seeking freedom, dignity, and advancement. All of these will be more meaningful if man will trust in Christ as his personal Saviour. Missions is our responsibility.



The basis of missions in the Old Testament can be traced from the call of Abraham. God wanted Abraham to begin a family that would be a spiritual blessing to the whole world. The promises of God were given as a reward for their fulfillment of the mission opportunity. The goal of God's redemptive history was that the whole earth would be blessed. God was not partial in his dealings with man for he wanted all to know of the relationship that he had with believing Abraham. However, the tragedy of the Old Testament is the failure of the descendants of Abraham in becoming what God wanted them to be—a channel of grace to the world.

UNIVERSAL PURPOSE Isa. 45:22

The nation of Israel had spiritually looked down upon the other nations of the world. Somehow they thought that God loved them and no one else. Yet they were not fully devoted in their relationship to God. The Babylon captivity was brought about because of their worship of idols. The nation had to learn that God was punishing them like the other nations who disobeyed him.

However, God made a way of escape from spiritual bondage. This redemption was provided not only for Israel but all mankind who would "look unto God." God was not only the Sovereign God, but he was the only God. The salvation of all mankind must be accepted if they were to fulfill their purpose in God's mission for them.

THE SUFFERING SAVIOUR Isaiah 53:2-12

Isaiah presented the Saviour of Israel and the whole world as a suffering servant. Up to this time many had thought of the Messiah as one who would rule with political powers and his redemption would be tied to what punishment he could put upon the enemies of Israel. The idea of

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suffering was not new to these people. Yet for one to suffer for their sins, and to die their death would bring spiritual healing to all who would accept Him as their Saviour.

This was not a new idea for the Old Testament but it had never been fully developed. There were hints of this from the Garden of Eden experience (Gen. 3:15). As one reads back into the Old Testament the actions of the Gospel he sees what so many did not know.

DELIVERANCE BASED UPON RIGHTEOUSNESS Isaiah 56:1-8

Isaiah was noted for his emphasis on justice and righteous living. All the prophets spoke of God's unceasing and uncompromising expectation of truth, integrity, moral purity and justice. The test of any religious commitment was the ethical and moral standards that were lived. Thus those who heed the call for justice and righteousness are to be blessed.

If the people of Israel were to know deliverance, then they must conform to God's law. The punishment of captivity was brought because of their disobedience. The redemption could only be possible if the people would be righteous.

So it is with man, he can only know redemption by doing God's will. His will can never be trusted until he knows that will. The mission of the Christian is to proclaim the teaching and desire of God that all men need to be and can be saved.

Mt. Zion Calls Pastor

Rev. T. C. Pinson has recently been called as pastor of Mount Zion Church, Rankin County. Pinson comes to Mount Zion from Wellman Church, Lincoln County. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary.

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MY WILL, MY WITNESS

MY WILL—The making of my will is one of the most important things I undertake to do for the protection and well-being of my family. To the best of my ability, I want them to be provided for when I am gone. Even if I do not have much of this world's goods, my family needs this protection. They need this evidence that I provide what love directs.

My will is best made while I am still young. In this period of life, provisions for my family is very important. They cannot afford for my property to go as the state's generalized and impersonal laws direct. If I have no will, what I want done with my property will have no effect on what is done with it. My will is evidence of my concern for my family.

MY WITNESS—As a Christian I also want my will to:

- Demonstrate that I love God, am grateful to Him for all that He has given me, and am undertaking to be a good steward of these gifts.
- Show that I want some part of my property to continue far beyond my lifetime to tell of His love for others, to minister in His name to those in need, and to win others to know Him.
- "Shew . . . my faith by my works" (James 2:18).

MY STRONG WITNESS—Since my will is to be an eloquent, enduring, predominant, and far-reaching witness to the faith which means so much to me, I determined to make it the best.

- From a representative of our Baptist Foundation I sought information to help me make this witness live and bear fruit through long years after I am gone.
- My attorney prepared my will to assure that it is legally effective and accomplishes what I want it to do for my family and for my Lord.
- I executed it. With my own hand it made it a positive instrument of witness.

IN LOVE AND FAITHFULNESS I did these things—without delay.

Bulletin Inserts Available Upon Request.

WILLS AND TRUSTS

Please send information on—

- ☐ making a Christian will.
- ☐ setting up a living trust.
- ☐ missionary, educational, and benevolent causes which could be remembered in my will.
- ☐ I would appreciate a visit from (without cost or obligation).

Carry E. Cox MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST FOUNDATION P. O. Box 530 Jackson, Mississippi 39205

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Names In The News

DEVOTIONAL

LIVING LETTERS

By L. Gordon Sansing — Director
Department of Evangelism

II Corinthians 3:1-6

Various figures are used in the Bible to set forth the people of God. In this Corinthian letter Paul refers to them as letters: Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount refers to Kingdom members as the salt of the earth and as the light of the world. There are many other such figures used, each of which suggests the function or doing of the people of God.

Paul says that they are his epistles or letters. The custom in Paul's day was that when teachers went into areas where they were not known they took with them letters of recommendation. Apparently some from Jerusalem had come to Corinth having such letters of recommendation and with them were seeking admittance into the Christian circles there. They were implying that since Paul did not have these letters he was therefore not a teacher in good standing.

Paul writes to say, "You are my letters." The best letters of recommendation are the fruits of our labors. Many of them had come to know Christ as a result of the witness of Paul. They were his letters.

Of greater significance, they were the letters of Christ. Jesus wrote no books. Yet He is writing on the pages of the human heart. And this is the most legible form that Christianity can take. This is writing that a child can understand. Or the unlearned. In fact this is the most convincing fact of Christianity. Who of us has not been greatly influenced and definitely convinced of the reality of the Christian faith as we have seen it in the letter of a life?

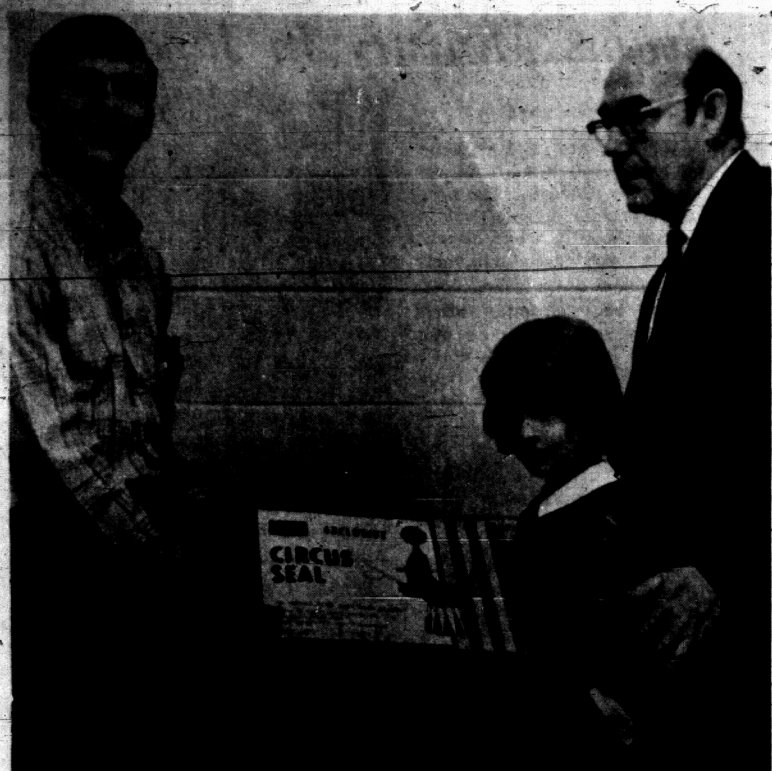
A living letter is an enduring influence for God and for good. A book may be lost. A material memorial may be destroyed. But the influence of a life that has been lived day by day for the Lord will endure forever.

The Christian religion is a religion of the heart. What more divine form could it take than a living letter, known and read of others. It is more than a religion of the head, of creeds and forms. It is very personal.

The first stated purpose of the Crusade of the Americas in the Cali Declaration is: "The deepening of the spiritual life within the churches, home, and individual Christians."

"While passing through this world of sin and others your life shall view, be clean and pure without, within. Let others see Jesus in you."

A fresh dedication to Bible study—to prayer—witnessing—to Holy living is the call of the hour in this year of Proclamation and Witness.



Students Entertain Children At Christmas

WILLIAM CAREY COLLEGE Circle K Club on Thursday, December 19, entertained the children of the Baptist Children's Village in Jackson. Shown above is Circle K member Byron Morgan presenting Sheila Slade with a Christmas toy. Sponsor, Dr. William Clawson, professor of religion and philosophy at Carey, looks on at right. Toys were donated by Sears, Penney's, Western Auto, and Bill's Dollar Store. The Circle K boys presented entertainment and a party-like atmosphere.

SEVILLE MISSION OPENS

A new English language Baptist chapel has been organized in Seville, Spain, site of a U.S. Air Force installation, according to the European Baptist Press Service.

The new mission, with three families as its core, is sponsored by the English-language Immanuel Baptist Church in Madrid. The new group has even adopted a budget, which includes funds for the Spanish Baptist Union and the European Baptist Convention, made up of English-language churches.

One of the men in the small group at Seville will lead the mission. Pastor Alfredo Mira, of the Spanish-language Baptist church in Seville, will assist. A graduate of the international Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, he speaks English. A partially blind Spanish youth leads music for the new congregation and plays the harmonium and accordion.

Rev. James M. Watson, Southern Baptist missionary and pastor of Immanuel Church in Madrid, and Rev. Jack D. Hancox, of Paris, fraternal representative of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to French Baptists, participated in the organization service in Seville.

Southwestern Seminary Elects Patterson Prof

FORT WORTH (BP)—Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees have elected Farrar Patterson as assistant professor of preaching and oral communications.

Patterson, pastor of First Baptist Church in Columbus, Tex., will specialize in oral communications as it relates to radio and television.

Rev. Eugene W. Broome of Sumrall, Mississippi, began as pastor of Pilgrim's Rest Church, near Graceville, Fla., December 15. He is a Baptist Bible Institute student. He was formerly pastor at Oral Church, Rt. 4, Hattiesburg. Mrs. Broome was Vonell Lucas of Sumrall. Their four children range from one to fourteen years old. The family lives on Rt. 4, Graceville.

James F. Cook, father of Mrs. W. Wayne Logan, missionary to Nigeria, died December 7 in Mississippi. Mrs. Logan may be addressed at 3609 McFarlin Blvd., Dallas, Tex., 75205.

Rev. Odean W. Puckett recently resigned as pastor of First Church, Summit, to become pastor of Parkview Church, Alexandria, Louisiana.

Lottie Moon Goal: Ashland Goes Over Top

Ashland Church went over the top in the Lottie Moon Christmas offering on Dec. 8, the last day of the "Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions," something that had never happened before.

On December 10 Dr. and Mrs. Roy McGlamery, former missionaries to Colombia, South America, spoke at the church. Through messages and pictures they showed Colombia—its history, its customs, and its religion. The congregation got a glimpse of what it was to be a missionary—Dr. McGlamery in setting up a hospital where the sick could be treated and where he could tell them of the love of God while their bodies were being healed.

"The Week of Prayer was climaxed by a great missionary sermon by Rev. Bill Burney, pastor. Then the offering for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was taken and counted. Up went the 27 lights of the Christmas tree, showing we had reached the goal. But it did not stop there; the yellow light began to glow and that meant we had gone over the goal!" recalls Mrs. R. N. Hudspeth, in excitement.

Young people under the leadership of Mrs. Marvin Crawford presented the play, "The Challenge of the Cross" and Mrs. Davis Akin, a great-niece of Lottie Moon, brought to life through personal letters and newspaper clippings the life, works and struggles of Lottie Moon as an early missionary in China.

Andrew Thobois, the president of the French Baptist Federation, of Paris, will preach on the West Indies island of Guadeloupe in February as part of the Crusade of the Americas evangelistic campaign. European Baptist Press Service reports. In addition to his services on the French island, Thobois hopes to visit Baptists in Haiti, also a French-speaking nation. Pastor of the Baptist church on Avenue du Maine in Paris, Thobois also edits the monthly newspaper published by the French Baptist Federation.

Judy Singleton, senior student nurse at Baptist Memorial Hospital, has been selected by a faculty committee as this year's outstanding student nurse. Judy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Singleton of Jones Mill, Arkansas. Judy was in competition with 38 other seniors in her class and will now compete with representatives from other schools of nursing in the city on January 15.

Rev. Larry Hill has accepted the pastorate of Endville Church, Pontotoc County, going from the pastorate of Turner's Chapel in Tippah County. Native of Union County, he is beginning his second year at Blue Mountain College this month. He is married to the former Anita Davis of Union County. They were given a warm reception by the Endville members on moving into their new home.

Rev. Ronnie Herrod, pastor of Sharon, First Church, Laurel, has resigned to accept Navco Church, Mobile, Alabama. In the past two years, the Sharon Church has had 145 additions, has increased the annual budget from \$12,000 to \$24,000, and has entered and completed a \$45,000 building program. Herrod is a graduate of William Carey College and received his ThM from New Orleans Seminary. He and his wife are both natives of Mobile. His former pastorates include McArthur Street, Pascagoula, Hurricane Creek (Marion).



New Hebron Pastor Moves To New Pastorium

CHARLES SHOWS, at right, chairman of the Building Committee, presents the keys to the new pastorium, at the New Hebron Church, to Rev. and Mrs. J. W. T. Siler, at the recent dedication of the house.

Beacon Street To Celebrate 22nd Anniversary

Beacon Street Church, Philadelphia will observe its 22nd anniversary Sunday, January 5. Twenty-two years ago First Church, Philadelphia appointed a committee composed of E. S. Cole, chairman; J. P. Williams, J. V. Moorehead, R. V. Taylor, W. W. Jones, Monroe Williams, Lewis Lowery, J. C. Walton, and Rev. Kenneth Hall to organize a new Baptist mission in the city. On the first Sunday in January, 1947, the committee met with a group of interested people upstairs in the Yates Building where they organized the Sunday school. Mrs. E. S. Cole was elected the first superintendent.

The service next Sunday will be led by the pastor, Rev. H. S. Rogers. The church will have as special guests the original committee members and all charter members who can be contacted. Rev. W. R. Storie, minister of prayer for the E. J. Daniels Evangelistic Team, will bring the morning and evening messages. Mr. Storie, a retired pastor from Jackson, travels in advance of the Daniels team to prepare churches for revival through prayer.

Bill Wilson will return from Grenada to lead the song service and to render special music. Miss Jenny Lynn Etheridge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Etheridge, will also bring special music. Mrs. Sidney Hamilton, Route 1, Neshoba, will serve as the organist while Miss Judy Strunk will serve as pianist.

The R. A.'s and G. A.'s and Sunbeams will be seated together with their workers for this service, numbering some 60 members. They represent the largest work of this type in the area, the pastor states.

Baptist Hour Topics

Theme for THE BAPTIST HOUR sermons in January will be "In the World but Not of It." The series considers the recent "Crisis Statement" adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in light of the scriptures.

The sermon topics are: January 5, "The Crisis of This Age"—John 18:14; January 12, "The Call to Re-

turn"—Luke 10:23; January 19, "The Call to Reformation"—Luke 10:23; January 26, "The Call to Reformation"—Luke 10:23; January 30, "The Call to Reformation"—Luke 10:23.



CHRISTMAS AT BAPTIST HOSPITAL finds Mrs. Zach Hederman presenting one of four awards to Miss Marion Fosberg representing the Surgery Department. From Left: Hederman, Fosberg, Mrs. Leland R. Speed, a judge, and Miss Dorothy Knox, an employee responsible for much of the decorating in surgery.

Recipe For A Happy New Year

Take twelve whole months. Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, rancor, hate and jealousy; in other words, make them just as fresh and clean as possible.

Now cut each month into 28, 30 or 31 different parts—but don't make up the whole batch at once; instead, prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients.

Mix well into each day one part of faith, one of patience, one of courage, one of work; add one each of hope, faithfulness, generosity and kindness, blend with one part prayer, one part meditation and one good deed. Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play and a cupful of humor.

Pour all of this into a vessel of love, cook thoroughly over radiant joy, garnish with smiles and serve with quietness, selfishness and cheerfulness—and you're bound to have a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."—Proverbs 3:6—Bulletin, Poplar Springs Drive, Meridian



Ridgecrest, Jackson Purchases Church Bus

48-passenger air-conditioned coach to use in an expanding youth ministry. Among the deluxe accessories included in the bus are individual suburban seats and a public address system. Dr. Earl Kelly, pastor, stated that the bus will be used in youth mission involvement, among other things. A group of highly trained young people from the church will serve as a part of a mission project to the Kentucky Mountains during the summer of 1968.

Peace On Earth...

Big Operation At Hospital

A big operation was under way at Mississippi Baptist Hospital, and those in charge were barking out their orders: "Cotton swabs!" The swabs were handed out. "Tongue depressors!" Here came the depressors. "Needles!" "Thread!" "Two inches of string!" "Nails!" "Nails??"

Yep. Nails. Because the "Operation," in this case, was decorating the sprawling hospital for Christmas '68, and the calls for all this strange assortment were directed—not to operating-room personnel—but to the hospital hostess, Mrs. Eunice Purvis.

Building Service personnel were Santa's helpers, too. They put up a huge sign across the front of the hospital, proclaiming the Christmas message: "Peace on earth, good will to men." It was the hospital's theme, this year.

Then there was the real-life drama of Jim McNeill, assistant director of Building Service. Like one of Santa's reindeer, he was scampering about on top of the building one day, busily nailing holly about the huge sign.

The calls began to pour into the hostess's office—from anxious people across the street, in the Medical Arts Building, pleading that a man was going to fall off the hospital, asking if someone couldn't help him!

Ah, yes, it was a busy, bustling time, this Christmas '68 at Mississippi Baptist Hospital, with the tots in the nursery dressed up in bright red Santa Claus suits and getting their pictures taken for the newspapers.

There was the big Christmas party for the patients, and the parties for the different units, and the Christmas cards propped up on tables everywhere, and people saying "Merry Christmas" to each other.

And the decorations! What ingenuity was displayed as hospital personnel went about gathering together the different tools of their trade, to give Christmas at Baptist Hospital that "flavor" only a hospital can provide.

For example, there was the Pill Tree in Pharmacy, with capsules for decorations. The award for "Best Christmas" was given to the Pharmacy.

The Laboratory came forth with eight doors decorated in various motifs—and won the award for "Best Department Application." In the Bacteriology Laboratory, a sign on

the "Germ Door" proclaimed "The Spirit Is Infectious." The Tissue Laboratory door had a sign—brace yourself—exclaiming "We Tissue a Merry Christmas!"

The Laboratory office made a wreath out of records of doctors' reports—and adorned it with a sign saying "This is a recording: Merry Christmas."

Surgery made a Christmas Tree from an I-V stand and discarded paper caps worn by surgical nurses.



M-Sgt. Dale Fuller

Forrest Avenue Calls Keesler M-Sergeant

M-Sgt. Dale Fuller of Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, was ordained to the gospel ministry on Wednesday, Dec. 10, at Emmanuel, Biloxi. Fuller, who had been serving as interim pastor of Forrest Avenue Church, Biloxi, was extended the call to serve as pastor.

The message of ordination was brought by Rev. Elton Gray. A charge to the church was given by Rev. Stanley White, Chaplain, Keesler; Rev. Justus Garrett gave the charge to the pastor.

Fuller is from Browning, Mo. He attended William Jewell College, whereupon Danny drew a picture of a man. "Why, Danny, there's no man in the poem!" "I know, Miss Jones, but that's neither I nor you!"

Surgery also built a map of the world, with each continent covered by Christmas cards emphasizing "Peace on Earth." The department won the award for "Best Overall Show," and the award for "Best Interpretation of Theme."

Judges included: Mrs. W. H. Kessler, Mrs. Z. T. Hederman, and Mrs. L. R. Speed.

Home Board Elects N. C. Chaplain

ATLANTA (BP)—Richard Warren McCay, a chaplain supervisor at the Winston-Salem, N. C. Baptist Hospital, has been named to the staff of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's division of chaplaincy.

McCay currently is a chaplain supervisor at the school of pastoral care, Bowman-Gray Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, N. C.

He is a graduate of the University of Richmond and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest.

Off The Record

A husband was talking with his wife about the wonderful electronic labor-saving gadgets the future will bring us. He asked her what she would do when she had all those gadgets. She replied with hesitation: "I guess I'll keep busy calling in the experts to repair all the gadgets."

In Alaska the Kaguyak Indians could not become telephone company customers because the letters on the dial meant nothing to them. Some bright man solved the problem. The traditional letters and numbers were dropped and animal pictures were substituted. Under the new system an Indian simply dialed three ducks, two polar bears, a seal and a mackerel. There are no problems that can't be solved by creative thinkers.

School Nowadays school teachers read poems to school children and then let the pupils draw what they saw as they heard the poem.

One day a teacher read the poem "The Night Before Christmas" and the children drew a picture of a man.

"Why, Danny, there's no man in the poem!" "I know, Miss Jones, but that's neither I nor you!"